

The Japan Weekly Mail.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 22ND, 1884.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

POSTHUMOUS honours have been conferred on the great-grandfather of the reigning Emperor.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Honorable F. R. Plunkett was received in audience by His Majesty the Emperor on the 21st instant.

A SUBMARINE cable has been laid between the village of Rotomo in the province of Hizen and the island of Tsushima.

CONSIDERABLE distress is said to prevail among the agricultural classes in the prefecture of Ibaraki.

OF eighteen brokers arrested on the 14th instant on suspicion of gambling in margins, seventeen were released on the 17th instant.

A FIRE broke out in Higashi Kuromoncho, Tokiyo, on the night of the 15th instant, and destroyed 170 houses.

A BUREAU for the preparation of the Constitution (*Seido-torishirabe-Kiyoku*) has been established under the presidency of His Excellency Hirobumi Ito.

HER MAJESTY the QUEEN has granted permission to Mr. W. W. Cargill to accept and wear the Insignia of the Third Class of the Order of the Rising Sun.

It is announced that the ceremony of opening the railway from Tokiyo to Takasaki will be

performed on the 18th of April by His Majesty the Emperor.

A FARMER, by name Shibata Asagoro, residing in the village of Naka-yoshida, in the province of Ugo, has been sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for a treasonable attempt to subvert the Government.

A STEAMER of 900 tons displacement was launched on the 14th instant from the Government shipbuilding yard at Shin-den, Hiogo. The vessel was built to the order of Mr. Nakamura Tinichin, of Kiyoto.

A CODE of Land-Tax Regulations has been published over the signatures of the First Minister of State and the Minister of Finance. The Regulations embody, and supplement, the various changes that have taken place in the system of land-taxation since the Restoration.

A LINE of steamers has been established to ply between the mouths of the rivers Fuji and Aizawa (in Koshiu). In connection with this enterprise, it is proposed to dredge the bed of the former river at an estimated outlay of 700,000 yen.

AN accident occurred in the harbour on the evening of the 17th instant. A boat containing over a hundred men upset while passing from the M.B.S.S. Co.'s steamer *Wakanoura Maru* to the shore. Eleven of the men were drowned.

A REPORT published by the Finance Department shows that up to the 20th of February the applications for Nakasendo Railway Bonds amounted to 8,166,000 yen. The Bonds were issued at 90, and the amount offered was five million yen. The Report says that the applicants were 677 in all, 153 being Banks and Companies. The premiums offered varied from .01, to 1.50 yen.

NOTES.

It will be remembered that the Municipal Council of Shanghai, some time ago, addressed a letter to the Senior Consul complaining of the disorderly conduct of Chinese soldiers in the foreign settlement, and requesting that steps should be taken to prevent, if possible, the passage through the streets of Mandarins attended by large escorts. To persons whose feelings are not excited by actual experience of the annoyances to which the residents of Shanghai were subjected, there is something almost sublimely high-handed in the notion that a few strangers living on Chinese territory for purposes of trade should undertake to prescribe the manner of going and coming of Chinese high officials. But if those officials cannot preserve order and discipline among their following, it becomes a nice question whether the perils caused by their progresses are not a violation of the treaties, which guarantee peace and protection to all foreigners residing within the settlements set apart for their use. The Consuls, however, would not accept that view of the matter. They declined to take the proposed steps, on the

grounds that "the discussion of certain rights of high Chinese officials would probably have no result." To this the Municipal Council replied, requesting that the whole correspondence should be forwarded to the Foreign Ministers at Peking. "The Ratepayers," they explained, "consider the right claimed by high Chinese officials to come into the Settlement attended by large numbers of armed men, who use force in order to compel every one they meet to stand aside as a mark of respect, is a matter of great importance in connection with the preservation of peace and good order in the Settlement." It will be observed that this is a repetition of the circumstances which foreigners found in Japan before the Restoration. So late as 1868, Captain Stanhope, of H.M.S. *Ocean*, was obliged to get out of his carriage and stand upon the Tokaido while a Daimiyo's procession passed. Sir Harry Parkes, we believe, protested very strongly against this proceeding, and an ample apology was made by the Japanese Government. Yet it is worthy of note that when the men of Bizen wounded a Marine and fired a volley in Kobe in 1867, because their ranks were broken, Sir Harry was the one foreign Minister who endeavoured to have their offence condoned, recognizing that from a Japanese point of view, they had just cause for anger. It will now devolve upon him to deal with a similar, though even more reprehensible, state of affairs in China, and we have little doubt that he will devise some means of correcting the abuse, though not in the way suggested by the Municipal Council. In the meanwhile, it is fortunate that Chinese soldiers do not read the English local papers. Doubtless if they had not exhibited a truculent and violent demeanour, they would not be called "a stupid, brutish, and insolent pack of ragamuffins," a "rabble-guard" and "a crowd of unclean savages;" but, on the other hand, even if they were peaceable and gentle braves, such epithets as these might have a perturbing effect upon their spirits. There is a certain consolation in calling a man bad names when he makes himself offensive, but one feels doubtful about the dignity or wisdom of such a resource in the case under consideration.

TO THE numerous list of recent shipping disasters in these seas we (*Hongkong Daily Press*) regret to have to add yet another well known coasting steamer. On Saturday morning a rumour being current in town that the Scottish Oriental Steamship Company's steamer *Rajanattianuhar* had been lost, the local manager of the Company, Mr. G. T. Hopkins, wired to Bangkok an inquiry concerning her, and received the following reply by telegraph:—"Rajanattianuhar total wreck on Pulo Ranjang; crew and passengers saved by *Danube*; returned to Bar." The *Rajanattianuhar* left Swatow on the afternoon of the 25th February with 85 passengers bound for Bangkok. The steamer *Mongkut* passed the *Rajanattianuhar* and *Taichow* on the 29th February about twenty miles to the westward of Pulo Condore. The *Rajanattianuhar*, which was a fine steamer of 793 tons,

left Greenock for the Far East on the 1st April, 1875, under the command of Captain Hopkins, and was employed on the Bangkok line from the time of her arrival here under the same commander until the end of January, 1882, when Captain Hopkins left her to take up the post of shore manager of the Company's steamers. Captain W. Young Hunter succeeded him on the *Rajanattianuhar*, and was in command at the time of the disaster, concerning which no further particulars are yet to hand.

THE Council of Ministers in Paris has decided to interdict the circulation in France of a journal called the *Révolte*, which is published at Geneva. It has also ordered judicial proceedings to be instituted against the *République Démocratique et Sociale*, a daily newspaper edited by M. Talandier, deputy for Vincennes. The alleged offence is an article just published by that paper, over the signature of Michael Morphy, a disciple of Proudhon, containing these expressions:—"Property is theft. Death to the thieves! With the aid of chemistry there is no longer such a thing as a minority. The apostles of the people's vengeance, thanks to dynamite, will be able to conquer the wealthy class, despite its power, its police, and its troops." According to the French law of 1881, any attempt, whether successful or not, on the part of the press, to incite men to murder, pillage, or incendiarism, is punishable by imprisonment of from three months to two years, and a fine of from 200 to 3,000 francs.

FRENCH gentlemen who love their *petite verre* have just had a narrow escape. In the early days of January, the scientists of Paris set themselves to discuss the question whether in future it would not be advisable to adulterate alcohol with strychnine. The idea was not to poison wine-bibbers but to save them from the ill-effects of their excesses. The treatment of alcoholism by strychnine had, in fact, begun to be regarded with favour by the faculty, and from cure to prevention was an easy transition. A distinguished member of the Academy of Medicine, M. Dujardin-Beaumetz, has, however, proved, by experiment and observation, that if strychnine can modify the symptoms of drunkenness and of delirium tremens, it offers no sensible opposition to the various alterations produced in the organs by the presence of alcohol in the tissues. So the notion of adding it to alcoholic beverages by way of a corrective has been abandoned. None the less lively was the emotion caused by the prospect among certain classes of Parisians.

SHORTLY before the Restoration, says the *Yiyu Shimibun*, when the *kinno joi* (serving the Sovereign and excluding foreigners) spirit was at its height, a certain high-spirited Ronin, angry at the *Baku-fu* for not obeying imperial decrees, cut off the head of a wooden image of the third Shogun of the Ashikaga dynasty. This he did in the Todo-in temple at Kiyoto, and afterwards exposed the headless image to public view at Sanjo-gawara. A similar occurrence took place at Hiroshima, Aki Prefecture, on the night of the 21st of last month. During a course of Shintoist lectures at that place, one of the speakers vehemently attacked Buddhism, and, pointing to an idol close by, cried "Gentlemen! this idol, though covered with gilt and ornaments, cannot confer favours upon any one, nor can it bring punishment upon an unbeliever. If you doubt my words, I can and will prove you their truth," and in another moment he had decapitated the

object of his wrath. Many people in the audience hereupon grew greatly excited, and got as red in the face as a boiled cuttle fish.

A TOKYO journal tells a wonderful story of the success which has attended the preaching of a priest called Houn Bugai, of the Zen sect of Buddhism. This enthusiast spent the greater part of last year travelling and preaching in the three prefectures of Tottori, Shimane, and Yamaguchi, with the result that 285,423 persons avowed themselves converts to his doctrines. Such bewildering figures make a considerable demand upon one's credulity. It is plain that if the results attributed to Mr. Houn Bugai's eloquence be trustworthy, a campaign of fifteen or twenty years will suffice to make the whole population of Japan followers of the *Zenshiu*.

THE question of the relative merits of the Krupp and Armstrong guns is one which will doubtless be definitively cleared up soon. In the meanwhile, the correspondence which we print elsewhere does not throw much light on the question. "Artillerist," writing to *Engineering*, challenges a comparative table published by Mr. Krupp, and justly points out that, to form a correct judgment, it is not right to compare a gun of 35 calibres in length with a gun of only 28.9 calibres. He then gives another table in which the performances of guns of the same length are placed side by side, considerably to the advantage of the Armstrong. Krupp, in his turn, challenges this table, and shows that in more than one respect it is incorrect, not, however, without himself falling into an error of calculation which another correspondent subsequently points out. We regret that Messrs. Takata & Co., have not sent us "Artillerist's" answer to Mr. Krupp. So far as the documents supplied are concerned, the advantage is certainly with the latter, but we cannot agree that the superiority of Krupp's gun is yet "clearly shown." Further trials will be necessary before the relative merits of the two weapons can be exhaustively determined.

A FEW days ago, says a recent, *Alta*, it was reported by the telegraph that Rev. Father Damazo Soto, of Concordia, Mexico, has discovered a key to the Aztec writings. This announcement excited considerable diverse comment, as it was known that the ancient Aztec picture writing had long ago been deciphered without much difficulty. The New York *Tribune* hazards the opinion that it is the Toltec writings, and not the Aztec, to which Father Soto thinks he has discovered the key. Of the Toltec writings the *Tribune* says:—"We are not aware that any of this priestly text has been deciphered fully, though enough is known of it to warrant the belief that much of the language employed an esoteric meaning, and was intended to conceal supposed truths from the eyes of the vulgar, much as alchemists used to conceal the real significance of their speculations and formulas in the Middle Ages. Could this Toltec hieratic writing be deciphered, it is probable that new light would be thrown upon the religion and science of that ancient and interesting people, and such information would be particularly welcome in this era of analytic inquiry."

WHEN Mr. A. J. Wilkin states that the tariff revision of 1866 was a kindly measure adopted by upright Foreign Representatives to put an end

to the corruption which prevailed in the Japanese Customs Service, he treads on somewhat delicate ground. Lord's Elgin's tariff was a very simple affair. The precious metals, wearing apparel in actual use, and household furniture or printed books not intended for sale, were duty free. Fourteen enumerated articles paid a duty of 5 per cent.; intoxicating liquors paid a duty of 35 per cent., and everything else paid twenty per cent. Under the system inaugurated in 1866, eighty-nine different classes of imports paid eighty-nine different specific duties; eighteen were duty free, and twenty-four paid an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent. To ordinary minds it would seem the apparent intention of this elaboration was to guard against dishonesty, not on the part of Customs officials, but on the part of importers themselves. To men of Mr. Wilkin's high integrity no contingency, perhaps, seems that less probable than fraudulent conduct on the part of European or American merchants. Yet, as a matter of history, fraud was largely practiced in the early days. Not only were goods invoiced at merely nominal figures, but they were sometimes carried off from the hatoba without troubling the Customs at all. These things were well known at the time, and as heartily condemned by the better class of foreigners as they were ever deprecated by the Japanese. How much corruption existed among the Customs officials themselves there is no evidence to show. It was probably very great. But the undeniable fact is that the elaboration of the tariff was designed to guard against smuggling operations on the foreign side rather than against false returns on the Japanese. The less said about the circumstances of those days, the better. If there is anything to be proud of in the business, it is that the Representatives of the Treaty Powers, assisted by the advice of upright gentlemen like Mr. Wilkin, arranged the tariff in such a way that it became much easier for the Japanese to ensure its honest operation. But the terms of the tariff had already been fixed. Its revision on a five per cent. basis had been consented to by the Japanese. Those who deny that this consent was obtained under the pressure of superior force must find some more reasonable argument, than the hypothesis that an allied fleet went to Osaka to procure the Taikun's Government's co-operation in a measure designed solely to correct the morality of Japanese officials and to increase the Japanese revenue.

THE Queen's new book, which was sent out for review February 11th, previous to its publication, is said to be even more in the nature of a record of personal ideas, feelings, and experiences, than was her former volume. The prediction that it would deal largely with political topics is not verified. A few allusions to her sympathy with and regard for Lord Beaconsfield, with implied preferences for his policy as compared with that of Mr. Gladstone, are the only deviations from the line of private reminiscence which Her Majesty has apparently laid down for herself. When she speaks of foreign public events, such as the Franco-German war and the recent Egyptian campaign, it is to indicate the interest they possess for her as an individual, not as a Sovereign. Nothing connected with France is touched upon, excepting her relations with the Imperial family; and her maternal interest in the fight at Tel-el-Kebir, where the Duke of Connaught took some part, is the single reason for

mentioning it. The intention is to supply a sequel to the earlier narrative, describing with simple exactness the general course of the Queen's life "in the Highlands," since the period of the Prince Consort's death. The diary begins in August, 1862; and is interrupted at October, 1879; but is resumed in 1883, for a few pages. The figures which appear most prominently are the habitual companions and attendants of the Queen,—members of her family and others. John Brown's constant and active service is attested by more frequent references to him and his doings than to any other single subject. But the secluded and uneventful life which Her Majesty has led since she became a widow, naturally deprives the publication of anything resembling vivid interest. There was really little to relate, and the incidents of one month, or year, go on repeating themselves with slight variation from beginning to end. Not more than half a dozen exceptional occurrences are chronicled;—the announcement, by Princess Louise to her mother, of the engagement to Lord Lorne; the foundation of a "cairn" to the Prince Consort's memory; a house-warming, where the Queen, at Brown's request, drank whiskey toddy; the reception of the news that the French Prince had been killed in Africa; accidents to Brown and his recovery therefrom; a Royal picnic, at which the ubiquitous gillie had nearly a fight with a reporter who watched the proceedings through a telescope;—and possibly one or two besides. Probably the most striking feature of the book is the fresh evidence it gives of the Queen's unceasing reliance upon the rugged strength and fidelity of her favorite servant; for the explanation of which we need go no farther than to look at her state of social isolation, which has, in later years, denied her the advantage of domestic counsel and guidance from persons of her own, or approximately her own, rank. The closing passage of the volume contains this tribute to the trusted attendant:—"He served me truly, devotedly, untiringly. To say that he is daily, nay, hourly missed by me, whose life-long gratitude he won by constant care and devotion, is but a feeble expression of the truth."

THE Okinawa (Riukiu) correspondent of the *Fiji Shimpō* writes under date of March 1st:—In connection with the return of Mr. Shoten (son of Mr. Shotai, the former chief of the Okinawa clan) to this Prefecture, his father, who is at present at Tokiyo, has issued the following notice to the *Shizoku* and people of this Island:—"The Court has shown great leniency and kindness in the treatment of the people of Okinawa, and all should heartily respond to its wishes and obey the local administration. Anything contrary to this is very wrong. The return of Shoten is for the purpose of visiting the tombs of his ancestors and of adjusting family matters: this is the sole reason of his return. Therefore if any one should start a rumour to a different effect or otherwise agitate the public, it would not only harm the people of Okinawa, but cause me serious trouble, and strict punishment would follow. The people should clearly understand the state of affairs; they should quietly follow their avocations, and refrain from violating the laws of the Government. I have given all necessary instructions to Shoten and his steward, which the people will hear of, without fail." This notice was published in the capital, Naha, in the form of circulars, and was read aloud in other places to crowds of the

natives, who, for the first time, thoroughly understand the motives of Mr. Shotai. Many listened to the reading of the circular with tears in their eyes, as they well appreciated the kind feelings of their one-time master towards his people. The followers of the Black Party, however, took no notice of the arrival of Shoten. They intend to appoint a former influential official chief of the clan, and it is reported that they have sent a petition to the Chinese Government. But the influence of the faction is on the wane since the publication of the above circular, and many have even sent apologetic letters to Mr. Shoten.

EDITORIAL changes, with their consequences, have been much remarked, of late, by readers of certain leading London journals. The *Pall Mall Gazette* does not appear to have suffered, as many predicted it must suffer, from the withdrawal of Mr. John Morley; but it can hardly be doubted that it has lost a good measure of the authority and influence which that gentleman's coöperation and management brought to it. He probably did not succeed in adding materially to the circulation, if, indeed, he ever made good the loss which followed the exposure of the internal dissensions of the concern, three years ago. But the circulation of the *Pall Mall* never was large, nor was the importance of its position at all dependent upon the number of its readers. Its real power, when Mr. Morley supplied the leading articles, was due to the fact that he was implicitly followed by numbers of writers in and out of London, some of whom exercised a political force in papers of much greater magnitude and popularity than the little afternoon daily. In this way, he indirectly edited a good many journals besides his own. He certainly brought to his work an energy and an intellectual sincerity more than sufficient to satisfy the average needs of half a dozen ordinary periodicals. Of course his absence from the familiar field is greatly lamented,—not only by the *Pall Mall* clientele, but, with at least equal earnestness, by the group of devotees who found it convenient to take their ideas from him, and present them in their own columns with only slight modifications of treatment. The reasons of his retirement are not well understood; but it is asserted that his relations with his former associates are unimpaired, and that the resignation was entirely voluntary on his part.

Instead of seeking for a new editor, and thereby provoking comparisons which might be injurious, even if unjust, the proprietor of the *Pall Mall* has decided to carry on the paper with its old working force, minus Mr. Morley, and to leave the general management in the hands of Mr. Stead, who was next in command to the late chief. Mr. Stead has a fine reputation in that branch of his profession which concerns itself with editorial superintendence and direction, rather than with literary production. He is not, however, like many executive managers, without good gifts as a writer, and can take his turn with the best, on occasion, in discussing the vital topics of the day. Mr. Thompson, the owner, is not a trained journalist, but is best known as a maker of works on national economy, and a leader in the social field of politics. He was at one time private secretary to Lord Spencer. He has taken some steps toward abandoning the strictly impersonal method in his paper,—the second article being frequently signed with the writer's name. Apart from this detail, and a

greater apparent reliance upon actual current news than formerly characterized it, the *Pall Mall* offers no tangible indication of present or impending alteration.

* * *

Mr. Harwood has said good bye to the *Saturday Review*, and is succeeded, in editorial control, by Mr. W. H. Pollock, a younger member of a family well known in legal and literary circles. The *Saturday* is still a publication of such prominence as to give considerable interest to the details of its organization, although the days when it was the shining—and somewhat lurid—light of English criticism, are well nigh forgotten. The present generation can hardly call to mind the régime of Mr. Douglas Cook, and his band of literary free-lances. In his time, each reappearance of the truculent weekly was a social event. Whatever his principles may have been, Douglas Cook was certainly one of the most ingenious manipulators of newspaper material and resources that ever lifted a periodical to daring, and occasionally dizzy, heights of prosperity. He knew how to turn every element of interest to its best account. Finding it advantageous to his purposes, he made a personal mystery of himself, as well as of his associates and their doings. Probably there was nothing more marvellous in his origin or career than that of most people; but when his conspicuous position made him an object of inquiry, he affected reticence and obscurity, and thus wrapped himself in a mystic atmosphere, through the medium of which his proportions were certainly magnified, and probably unduly distorted. He was known to live in the Albany, and he was surprisingly prevalent in society, for a man who accomplished so much hard work; but as nobody could tell where he came from, everybody was excessively anxious to trace his origin and fix his antecedents. People who did not like him,—and there were legions of these before he had carried the *Saturday* through the first six stormy months,—vowed that he was an escaped convict. This was probably not generally credited. If it had been, half the newspaper owners in London would have been sending to Botany Bay for editors,—on a theory formulated by Abraham Lincoln, with reference to General Grant and whiskey drinking. He had been an attaché of the *Morning Chronicle*, during the discreditable period—if we remember rightly—when Napoléon III. bought that unlucky sheet and entrusted it to the most incompetent American he could possibly have picked out of the United States colony in Paris. The *Chronicle* went to pieces, as it deserved, but its best people were gathered together and marshalled under Cook's bâton in the new *Saturday Review* corps. But they were all under pledge not to reveal their identity, it being part of the editor's policy to invest the authorship of all articles with as much romance as his imagination could devise. It suited his fancy to have it get about that most of the "society sketches,"—the cleverness of which had a great effect in establishing the fortunes of the concern,—were the work of young Oxford and Cambridge graduates, newly created "fellows," unfledged barristers, and the like. In fact, there was a sufficient number of smart University men contributing, under Cook's leadership, to give colour to the report; but the body of the periodical was provided, each week, by men who were neither young nor fresh; by men—or sometimes women—who had for years pursued their vocation without obtaining, or expecting to

obtain, a tenth part of the applause which was regularly lavished upon the unknown contributors to the *Review*. An instance of Cook's peculiar craft occurs to us, in connection with the recent republication of a collection of *Saturday* essays, the parenthetical narrative of which may have an attraction for those who are interested in these topics.

The proprietor of the *Saturday Review* was Beresford Hope, a connection by marriage with a young nobleman who, though now the recognized leader of the Conservative peerage, at that time found it agreeable to preface book reviews for his brother-in-law's brilliant periodical. Lord Robert Cecil's pen was as bitter as his tongue proved to be in the House of Commons, and his productions were naturally appreciated by Cook in a kindred spirit. Whether Lady Robert Cecil ever contributed to the paper, or not, we are unable to say; but she was all at once credited with the authorship of as remarkable a series of "social studies" as ever adorned the pages of any English journal. The first of these, entitled "The Girl of the Period," caused people to open their eyes to an extent unusual even when the lively columns of the *Saturday* were under perusal. It was, in fact, written by Mrs. Lynn Linton,—an authoress now known to fame as the creator of some of the most powerful of modern fictions; but then in no wise distinguished above the usual order of nimble-handed newspaper attachés. The success of the initial essay caused it to be followed by several of the same stamp, and public curiosity was eager in search of the writer. Internal evidence betrayed the feminine origin, and, lest from that starting point the whole truth should be discovered, it was thought expedient to set inquiry on a false scent. Lady Robert Cecil was celebrated for a cleverness which, if not previously manifested in the same direction, was believed sufficient to qualify her for any achievement she might undertake. She was in constant companionship with her sister, Lady Mildred Hope, and Mr. Hope was owner of the *Saturday Review*. The scheme was thus ready made to Douglas Cook's hand, and was floated into popular acceptance without much need of his masterly strategy. From that day until a few weeks ago, the present Marchioness of Salisbury has worn the honours—such as they are—attached to the composition of "The Girl of the Period" effusions. The editor would never, so long as he could control the matter, permit Mrs. Linton to enjoy the celebrity to which she was fairly entitled. Perhaps she felt, herself, some hesitation in avowing the responsibility; for there are some tolerably audacious passages in the articles, and Mrs. Linton has once or twice shrunk from proclaiming her own handiwork,—notably, in the case of that remarkable allegory, "Joshua Davidson." However, this may be, she has at last disclosed herself, in the preface to a volume containing the essays. Not only has she disclosed herself, but she has made awkward suggestions concerning the pretenders who have shone by the light which she alone kindled. She affirms that she has twice been introduced to alleged authors of her productions,—one, a clergyman, and the other, "a lady of rank, well known in London society, and to this hour believed by her own circle to have written" the sketches in question. Mrs. Linton does not say that Lady Salisbury put forward any claim on her own behalf; but she strongly hints that it

was her duty to disavow "the soft impeachment." So we have, in this disagreeable sequel to a journalistic deception, a new proof that "the evil that men (like Douglas Cook) do lives after them."

* * *

In these days of the *Saturday*'s decadence, it is difficult to refrain from thus glancing back to its period of greatness, although we admit that the dexterous machinations of a bygone editor have little to do with the recent accession of a new one. Under Mr. Harwood, who has just retired, the paper continued to exhibit all the rancour and malignity with which his predecessor invested it, but comparatively little of the determined purpose and systematic energy of its youth. It was so carelessly, not to say recklessly, conducted, that its political utterances almost ceased to attract attention. Its discussion of continental questions was at times ludicrously feeble. The literary and general departments were, however, kept at the old standard, or very near it; and upon these the character of the paper has mainly rested. It is somewhat curious that, if we may judge from Mr. Pollock's antecedents, the incoming editor is less likely to infuse vigour and earnestness where these were most needed, than to further develop the merits of the minor features. He is known among journalists as a well informed art critic, and a careful reviewer of French and English theatrical productions. Whether his dainty refinement of taste is the quality needed to restore the *Saturday* to any similitude of its ancient potency, is a question which answers itself. But Mr. Pollock has a reputation for conscientious accuracy which he may succeed in imparting to those of his staff who have, in late years, suffered from the need of authentic guidance. He has undoubtedly a fine opportunity. Little appears to be expected of him, and if he contrive to reverse the downward course of the still conspicuous periodical confided to his care, his success will be all the more striking; and his reward the more substantial.

ACCORDING to the *Kwampo*, the Consular report from Ginsen, dated February 11th, indicates that the Koreans seem at last to have recognized the benefits to be derived from foreign trade, and the momentous necessity of developing their own industries. Most of the inhabitants are engaged in establishing commercial firms in the larger towns, but some are latterly turning their attention to the manufacture of goods for export. Min-O-Shok, President of the Commercial Bureau, who was in China and Japan during the early part of last year, has, in connection with a certain Councillor in charge of military affairs, established a large export firm, with a view to further foreign trade. He intends, with the assistance of experienced Japanese, working the gold mines in Kyōng-sang-do and other provinces. The above-mentioned Councillor has, moreover, started a brewery and a wine factory, in connection with fourteen of his colleagues. White, red, yellow and blue ("blue ruin") wines are manufactured, and reported to be of excellent quality. Another firm, known as the Taïdo Trading Company, has been started in Hei-an-do. All of these establishments are semi-official. A secretary in the Foreign Office has opened a tobacco factory, and is engaged in the manufacture of cigars in the European style. The tobacco is of various grades, the leaves more nearly approaching those

of the Western tobacco than does that of Japan. Should the manufacture of cigars be improved, there is every probability that Korean tobacco will sell well; but as yet the quantity produced is so small that it does not reach the markets. The establishment of other trading firms is continually going on, and, though there are no data as to the actual result, the fact that the natives have begun to appreciate the importance of foreign trade is a good omen for the future. On the 21st of last September, the *Kokaku Maru*, a little vessel of 87 tons, bought in Japan, sailed for the first time from Korea to Nagasaki, with a full cargo of hides, cotton goods, seaweed, etc. The vessel was commanded by a Korean captain, and was the first to engage in direct export from Korea.

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The same report further states that Go-keicho, the commander of the Chinese troops stationed in Sōul, is said to be about to leave for Canton in company with about 1,000 soldiers. It is, however, rumoured that he intends going unescorted to Tientsin in the first instance, after which he will return and conduct his men to Canton. The minting of a new coinage was carried on extensively during 1883. Coins were struck off both officially and by private individuals up to last November, in which month the work was temporarily suspended. In January of this year private coinage was permitted for a period of ten days, at the expiration of which period all further coinage was strictly prohibited and the mints destroyed. The *Tenkan-Kioku* is the only still existing mint.

* * *

On the subject of the new coins the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* appends the following remarks:—The new one *mon* coins have not yet come largely into circulation, but as they were intended to remedy the over-issue of 5 *mon* coins they have been carefully minted and are of a uniform weight, which was not the case with the old 5 *mon* coins. Still, it is to be apprehended that this uniformity of weight will not much longer be their commendable characteristic if the mintage is carried on in any other place than the *Koku-fu*. Each of the new *mon* coins weighs exactly one *momme*; but, as they are composed of 6 parts of copper and four parts of lead and zinc, they weigh 2 *fun* less than the old one *mon* pieces. Their small size is an argument decidedly against them.

A SAILOR belonging to the American ship *Frank Pendleton* dropped down dead near the Union Church on Thursday shortly after noon, and a *post mortem* examination made yesterday by Dr. Eldridge showed that death resulted from apoplexy caused by alcoholic poisoning. As indicating the quality and effects of the so-called liquors sold to the unfortunate sailors frequenting this port, it may be worth recording that although the deceased had been in Yokohama but a short time, and the debauch during which he died was of comparatively brief duration, the terrible decoctions of which he had partaken had produced effects upon the vital organs far more severe than in ordinary cases of alcoholism, even if chronic, and closely resembled those found after death from substances universally acknowledged to be poisons, e.g. arsenic. The man was, in fact, poisoned, and none the less so that no evidence can be found to prove that he had partaken of anything other than the usual beverages sold at the lower class of public-houses.

THE news received by the American mail shows that the estimate we recently formed of the English Government's policy in Egypt was correct. The programme of General Gordon and Mr. Gladstone is to abolish Turkish and Egyptian rule in the Soudan and to restore the country to its original rulers, the Arabs. A telegram published in the *New York Herald* of February the 7th says that the following extract from a letter of Gordon's has been made public:—"It is no secret that England has abandoned all intention of guaranteeing the continuance of Egyptian supremacy over the Soudan. It has declared that the task is altogether too onerous, and would be attended with no corresponding advantages. It will, therefore, allow the people now in rebellion to revert to their old Sultans." This decision is fully endorsed by Gordon. His characteristic verdict is that "unless England shall secure the Soudan in the possession of a good Government, she ought not to conquer the country herself nor allow others to do so." That Mr. Gladstone fully shares these views is proved by his speech in the Commons on February the 12th, in answer to Sir Stafford Northcote's motion of censure. General Gordon, he explained, had a plan of his own for extricating the garrisons and pacifying the country. He proposed to "restore the former rulers to their ancestral power, usurped by Egypt." The only difficulty to be anticipated in obtaining the Mahdi's consent to this arrangement is that it will confine him to the Soudan. But if, as Gordon supposes, the insurrection is wholly the result of local misrule and not motivated by any larger purpose, there is no reason why that limit should prove a serious obstacle. General Gordon's methods of dealing with the insurgents are illustrated in the message he sent from Korosko to a troublesome Sheikh:—"Meet me at Khartoum. If you want peace, I am for peace; if you want war, I am ready." It is discouraging to find that his chances of success are doubted by no less an authority than Sir Samuel Baker, who has gone to Cairo. Meanwhile, the excitement in England appears to be very great. Professor Tyndall, writing to the *Pall Mall Gazette*, says that "the latest shame and scandal which the Government's cowardice has inflicted bring the country by no means to the end of its humiliations: while *The Times* declares that "if the Government fails to recognize its obligations at a crisis vital to our honour as a nation and to our existence as an empire, it will be a sad and sorry ending of a life of illustrious public service." The *United Ireland*, on the other hand, congratulates the Mahdi on his successes, and the Government, replying to a question asked in the House of Commons, have disavowed any intention of prosecuting the Nationalist organ. The Irish agitators have their own special reasons for rejoicing at the Mahdi's victories, but after all they can hardly be prosecuted for wishing success to a leader who has the British Cabinet's approval.

THE Japanese *littérateur* discloses sometimes a pleasant vein of humorous philosophy. One of them, writing in the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, imparts the information that Mr. Tennyson receives as much as one thousand dollars for a short set of verses, and calls upon his readers to mark the different condition of affairs in Japan. "Here," he says, in substance, "the poet or essayist may wrestle with his theme, and polish, and elaborate with all his might; and then he is

plunged into anxiety as to whether his production will ever reach the glory of publication. Look at us! We pay the postage on our heavy manuscripts, and do not expect to get even that small outlay back. It is enough if we see ourselves in print. But,—one thousand dollars for a few stanzas! I wish I lived in Europe,—oh! how I wish it!" . . . "While writing these words," he adds, "I was interrupted by hearing some one in the next room exclaim,—'A dullard is a dullard, in whatever part of the world he may be.'"

ON the 19th inst. a lecture on "Nerves" was delivered at the rooms of the Alpha Lodge, No. 42, under the auspices of the I.O.G.T., to an appreciative audience, by the Rev. G. T. Smith. The lecture was followed by songs by Miss Abbey, and by Messrs. Butland and Thorn of H.M.S. *Sapphire*. Short addresses from Rev. F. Bennett and Mr. Bunting, the Chairman, with closing prayer by the Rev. Mr. Garst, brought an enjoyable evening to a close. We understand that similar meetings are to be held fortnightly at the above rooms.

THE funeral took place on the 19th inst. of the men drowned through the recent boat accident in the harbour. The procession, which was formed at Noge, presented a sad spectacle as the ten bodies were borne up Ishikawa Hill on the way to the cremation ground near the racecourse, as the thought naturally arises that the lives spent were recklessly thrown away. The accident has been a great deal talked about, and almost every foreigner who refers to the subject has some experience to relate of the wanton risks daily run by Japanese in the matter of overcrowded boats. Nor is the danger confined to workmen going to and from ships in the harbour following their daily avocations. Since the accident to which we now refer, a case of overcrowding was seen in a sampan which landed a firing party from one of the Japanese men-of-war now in harbour. A foreigner on the bridge at the end of Water Street, noticing a boat with her gunwale within an inch or so of the water, stopped to count the number of men who got out of her when she came to the steps. The boat was an ordinary sampan in charge of two sendoes, and 35 men and two officers came to the Creek steps in her from the man-of-war anchorage. The men were on the way to the Rifle Range and had their rifles, and, it may be assumed, a fair quantity of ball cartridge, which, with their accoutrements and foreign seamen's rig would have probably drowned half the number had the boat been caught in the swell of a Yokosuka steamer or by other means shipped a little water, as the men were so thickly stowed that there was no room to bale the boat out in such a case.

Vanity Fair thus writes of Mr. Satow, H.B.M.'s Agent and Consul-General in Siam:—"Mr. Ernest Satow was Japanese Secretary at Tokiyo, and co-editor of 'Murray's Handbook of Japan.' Mr. Satow, a B.A. of London University, entered the Eastern Consular Service by open competition, in 1861, since which time he has been the backbone of whatever establishment he has belonged to. No man ever more thoroughly deserved the promotion which has now been accorded to him, fortunately whilst he is still at an age when he and the country are likely to profit by it. By this appointment Lord Granville enunciates the grand principle that any boy

going up for an appointment in the Chinese and Japanese Consular Service by open competition may, if he proves himself worthy, rise to the very highest posts in those countries; for there cannot be any doubt that Mr. Satow's appointment as Her Majesty's Agent in Siam is merely a stepping-stone to his future promotion to Tokiyo or to Peking when the proper moment arrives. Of course in a series of appointments such as this someone must be disappointed. Everybody must be sorry that Mr. Newman, who has served so long and so ably at Bangkok, should be superseded; but it is only for the moment."

THE *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 8th inst. publishes the following relating to the Triad Society:—"Rumours of various kinds were rife among the Chinese in this Colony yesterday with regard to the doings of the Triad Society on the mainland. The most generally diffused rumour was that they had set fire to Canton, and it was in flames on both sides of the river. On inquiring at the office of the Chinese Telegraph Administration, we found that the line was out of order and not working. We also made inquiries of the officers of the *Kiukiang* on her arrival from Canton in the afternoon, but everything was quiet when she left, and they had heard of no trouble whatever other than the destruction of two houses by some accidental fire. The other rumours we heard were that the Society men had risen in Mirs Bay, and had attacked Kowloon City, which they had sacked. Chinese rumours, however, are in at least nine cases out of ten almost without foundation; the Canton one seems of this class, and it is most probable the others are equally unreliable.—We hear that upwards of a thousand Chinese belonging to the Triad Society have quietly left Hongkong, unarmed, with the intention, it is believed, of joining the rebels in the Kwei-shin district.—Latest reports from Canton state that all is quiet there, and there have been no risings by the Triad Society men or other rebels, nor has the city been set fire to. Thursday's wild Chinese rumours have all turned out to be unfounded.

MR. HENRY BUCK, perhaps better known as "Hotspur" of the *Daily Telegraph*, died last week, says a recent home paper, after a long illness, which had withdrawn him from his professional duties since the autumn of 1881. He was one of the best-known and most popular members of the industrious band whose business it is to supply our dailies with a weekly article and daily comments on sporting intelligence, and in his time was found a worthy successor to poor Harry Feist, the original "Hotspur" of the Peterborough Court organ, a paper that has always been very strongly represented in its sporting contributors. The present "Hotspur," whose happy knack of writing causes his article to be always sought for, is Mr. Greenwood, a partner of Mr. Buck in a commission agency.

The original "Hotspur," Feist, made the reputation of the *Telegraph's* sporting column, and in his time gave some remarkable predictions, but we remember one instance when he was altogether "out of the hunt." The occasion was the Liverpool Grand National of 1872. As the day approached for the great gathering at Aintree, Casse Tête came into the betting, and this fact alone was sufficient to induce some of the numerous tipsters to mention the animal

in their sporting notes as a possible winner. "Hotspur" in the *Telegraph*, pooh-poohed the idea of Casse Tête's ability to stay the course, much less that "the undersized, washed-out looking brute" should be in dangerous proximity to the winner at the finish, and in his final notes previous to the race said, if "Casse Tête wins the Grand National I will undertake to eat the beast." It is a matter of turf history that Casse Tête won the race from 24 others, and poor Feist never heard the last of it to the day of his death. It was quite true, however, that the washy-looking chesnut belied its appearance, for many a bigger and better-looking Japanese pony has been saddled on the Negishi Hill.

A TELEGRAM in a New York paper, dated London, Feb. 11, announces the death of Mr. Thomas Chenery, editor of *The Times*. Mr. Chenery, who succeeded the late Mr. Delane in 1877, was born in Barbadoes in 1826 and educated at Eton and Cambridge. Afterwards he was admitted to the English bar at Lincoln's Inn. In 1868 Dr. Wilberforce, Bishop of Oxford and Lord High Almoner, appointed Mr. Chenery Lord Almoner's Professor of Arabic at Oxford. He belonged by appointment of the Sultan to the Order of the Medjidie and was Secretary of the Royal Asiatic Society. He was one of the English revisers of the authorized version of the Old Testament. As an Oriental scholar he is best known by his translation of "The Assemblies of Al Hariri," and by his edition of "Macberoth Ithiel." He is the author of various literary and political writings.

THE Lynch Family of Bellringers, said by the Hongkong papers to have left that port for Yokohama, have decided to remain in Hongkong for a short season, before coming to Japan. The manager writes to say that the party may be expected here about the end of the present month. The *Bombay Gazette* thus refers to the troupe:—The Lynch Family, judging from the uniform warmth of the reception accorded to them by the audiences that have witnessed their performances at the Gaiety Theatre, are likely to reap the same bountiful harvest of success that they have enjoyed elsewhere. . . . To the Lynch Family belongs the credit of being the Pioneer Campanologists in India and so long as bellringing is performed by such clever performers as they are there is every reason to believe it will be as popular here as at home."

A LONDON telegram, which appears to have escaped notice hitherto, mentions a statement, said to have been made by Li Hung-chang, to the effect that the Chinese forces at Bac-ninh had been ordered to withdraw twenty-five leagues to the northward. This intelligence is dated January 17th, and judging by the result of the last fighting in Tonquin, it seems more than probable that such an order was actually issued. The forecast suggested is that China does not mean to fight openly so long as her own territories are not actually threatened. She has two courses before her, either to accept the mediation that will now be offered, probably by America, or to continue the policy of covert assistance, which, up to the present, has given its backbone to the resistance of the Black Flags. The latter are not much less formidable than they were a year ago. They have lost a good many positions, and been severely beaten several times, but they are still a troublesome

factor, to be completely eradicated before the French task can be counted accomplished. It is possible that during the summer they may carry on a harassing species of guerilla warfare in the mountainous districts between Sontai and Laokai, or even in the delta itself of the Red River, and that China looks to obtain something of her desired terms in exchange for undertaking to rid France of this embarrassment. But, for the rest, it cannot be expected that France will pay much attention henceforth to Chinese menaces. After all the tall talk and brave declarations we have heard, it now appears that the Marquis Tsêng was the sole defender of Bac-ninh. A gallant defence he made, too, in his own way; but one cannot help reflecting, that had he better estimated the true temper of his Government, China's prestige would not have suffered so cruelly.

AMONGST the telegrams taken from the Shanghai papers and published on the 20th inst., there is one which was not sent here announcing an action in Egypt about a fortnight previous to the great fight in which so many of the enemy fell. This message, which is dated London, March 2, does not give the *locale* of the fight, but the British loss is stated to be fifty killed and wounded, while that of the enemy was a thousand.

ACCORDING to an Imperial Notification of the Council of State, H.I.H. Torihito, the father of Kokaku Tenno (one hundred and nineteenth Emperor and great-grand father of the reigning Mikado), has been granted the posthumous title of *Tai-jo Tenno* (Supreme Emperor), and canonized as *Kei-ko Tenno*.

THE trial of the fifty-two members of the Park Club, London, charged with gambling by playing baccarat at the rooms of the club, has been recently concluded. The proprietor of the Club and the members of the Committee were fined £500 each, and the players £100 each. An appeal from this decision was lodged.

A FOREIGNER while passing through the Shimabashi railway station on Thursday was relieved of his watch. Considering the number of warnings the public have had about watch-lifting at the Tokiyo station, it is rather surprising that people do not remember when arriving at the Capital terminus to "pocket their watch and watch their pocket too." The way in which many persons wear a watch and exhibit a foot of heavy gold chain is a premium on theft, although we are not aware this was the case with the latest victim.

IN H.B.M.'s Court on Thursday, before N. J. Hannen, Esq., Judge, Patrick Burnside was summoned by Messrs. Boyer & Co., of the Grand Hotel, for \$32.10 for board and lodging. The defendant did not appear, and one of the partners of the firm having produced a promissory note signed by the defendant, which he had refused to pay, His Honour gave judgment for Boyer & Co. for the amount claimed, with costs.

ADMIRAL COURBET has written to Admiral Peyron, French Minister of Marine, bitterly complaining of being superseded by General Millot in the command of the French forces in Tonquin, just as he was about to attack Bac-ninh.

THE Chinese Government telegraph lines are steadily being extended. The wires have been in working order between T'ung-chow, a town

twelve miles from Peking, and Shanghai, with Tientsin, Nanking, and several other important places *en route*, for some months; and now we learn that a line between Shanghai and Foochow has been completed and opened for traffic.

It would not be generally supposed that passengers by rail are in the habit of leaving money behind them in the carriages. Nevertheless the records of the police station at Shimabashi show that the amount of the money thus forgotten in first class carriages on the Tokiyo-Yokohama line during 1880 was 628 *yen*.

It does not appear that the folks who cater to the appetites of native Lotharios of Yokohama drove a very prosperous trade during 1883. The total earnings of the casinos in Maganechô, Yeirakuchô, and Takashimachô only amounted to 173,471 *yen*, of which 59,760 *yen* were the receipts of the female furniture of the establishments.

WE read in a vernacular journal that the total amount of the taxes on vehicles collected during 1883 was 363,300 *yen*, which sum is from thirty to forty thousand less than the average of the preceding two years.

THE number of civil cases appealed to the Supreme Court in Tokiyo, during the month of February, was sixty; and the number of appeals decided, seventy-one. The number of criminal cases appealed was 334, and the number decided, 310.

WE have not been visited during the past two months by so many shocks of earthquake as usual, but on Saturday night about half-past seven the inhabitants of this Port received a sudden and violent reminder in a strong, sharp shock.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Hon. F. R. PLUNKETT, H.B.M.'s Minister to Japan, arrived here on Saturday in the P. & O. steamship *Kashgar*, and shortly after proceeded to Tokiyo.

THE Manila *Comercio* of the 1st inst. says:—"To-day news has been circulated of the receipt of a telegram announcing suspension of payment by the London house of Messrs. Martin, Dyce and Co. We regret this disaster which has fallen on one of the oldest mercantile firms in Manila."

THURSDAY being the anniversary of the Spring Festival (*Shun-ki Ko-rei Sai*) most of the vernacular journals observed a holiday. The Princes, Ministers of State, Privy Councillors and all officials of *sonin* rank proceeded to the Palace, and were present at the ceremonies performed there.

WE are informed that the P. & O. steamship *Khiva* left Hongkong at 4 p.m. on Thursday for this port, *via* Nagasaki and Hiogo, and that the English mails of the 8th February are on board the O. & O. steamer *Arabic*.

THE Russian cruiser *Razboingh* (8), Captain Pojarsky, arrived here on Thursday from Honolulu, after a fine weather passage of 33 days. The *Razboingh* exchanged salutes next morning with the port and *Sapphire*.

THE Occidental and Oriental steamship *Arabic*, for this port, left Hongkong on Wednesday, at 3 p.m. The *Arabic* is bringing up the English mail of Feb. 8, and may be expected here next Tuesday.

JAPAN AND KOREA.

THE *London and China Express* discusses the new tariff and trade regulations between Japan and Korea in a spirit not usually betrayed by writers on such subjects. To a casual reader the impression conveyed is that our contemporary's article was inspired by a sentiment of engrossing anxiety to cast some reproaches in Japan's teeth, and of ungenerous delight at the prospect of an occasion to be severe. In one respect, perhaps, we ought not to complain of this exhibition: it imparts to a naturally colourless thesis lights and shadows which greatly improve its sombre aspect. But when a newspaper which usually displays a desire to divide its vision equally between both sides of a question, suddenly abandons the judicial rôle, and assumes the part of an unreasoning opponent, it is apt to lose in credit what it gains in animation.

The article to which we allude contains so many remarkable statements, set forth in such vigorous language, that we reproduce in full the portions of it which refer to the subjects under discussion:—

In her treatment of Korea we have now the standard created by Japan herself. We need not revert to our own ideas of right and wrong, our methods of dealing with a weaker nation, our standards of justice and good policy, and apply them to Japan. For eight or nine years past Japan has supplied us with means for estimating her sincerity when she professes indignation and discontent at the treaties now binding her to the West. Korea is a weak, ignorant, secluded country; Japan is now the powerful neighbour, with ironclads, machine guns, and repeating rifles, with intimate knowledge, too, of international matters. The case of thirty years ago, so far as Japan is concerned, has been reversed, and has she practised the precepts which she has busily inculcated lately—tenderness and moderation to the weaker and more ignorant neighbour at her feet, and scrupulous respect for her rights and independence (?) Japan complains, and justly, of the violence and outrage of individual foreigners in the first years of the foreign settlements; has she done better in Korea? We think not. It is not very long since a number of Japanese residing in Fusan sallied out from the settlement to force the officials of the neighbouring populous town to give them the satisfaction they demanded; the Consul—we speak now of three or four years ago—at Fusan in his numerous disputes with the Korean authorities was not unfrequently accompanied by a train of his fellow-countrymen to overawe the Korean populace and officials. All private accounts from the settlements speak to the arrogance of the lower Japanese officials and residents to the natives who come in contact with them. It was for some years a bitter complaint of Japanese politicians that a small English and French force was maintained at Yokohama, but Japan maintains in Korea a large force of armed police, and the powers which she claims over her settlements in Korea are far greater than those ever claimed by Europeans in Japan. In short, Japan in dealing with Korea has read in the book of the Western Powers in dealing with Japan, and has bettered, vastly bettered, the instruction. Whatever she has most complained of in the past conduct of the West, she has herself done in Korea. We are, therefore, not surprised to find on examination of the new regulations for trade between Japan and Korea that almost everything which Japan most objects to in the tariff between herself and Western Powers is carefully inserted in the instrument she has just concluded with her neighbour. She demands from the West rights and privileges which she resolutely refuses to Korea; everything which she has declared most unjust and wicked when required from herself she now demands and obtains from Korea. The measure which she demands shall be meted out to her is precisely the measure which she will not mete out herself. Our readers shall judge for themselves as to the justice of these strictures.

Japan at present refuses to all but one or two favoured individuals the right to charter foreign vessels to visit unopened ports. Rice may rot in the north and west rather than that it should be conveyed in a foreign-owned ship. But she appears in Korea as the apostle of a free coasting trade. Article XXXIV. of the regulations provides that Korean subjects may freely charter Japanese merchant vessels; and by Article XXII. Japanese vessels may convey goods of any country whatsoever between the trading ports of

Korea. Even the Japanese Government appear to have been struck by the fact that they are demanding from Korea privileges which they desire to refuse in their own country, for they insert the very lame sub-clause:—"When, however, Korean shipping has become sufficient for the coasting trade of Korea no foreign vessels shall be used to convey Korean produce from one Korean port to another." Who is to be judge of the "sufficiency" of Korean shipping? and is Japanese shipping sufficient for her own coasting trade? We find, again, provisions of the most complete kind for drawbacks, while Japan herself is anxious to reduce the system in her own country to a nullity. While she quarrels with extra-territoriality she establishes it in a full and extended form for her own subjects in Korea. She was very restive for a few years under the foreign post-offices in Japan; yet she establishes her own post-offices in Korea. She insists that drugs entering Japan shall pass her examining bureau, but in Korea the guarantee of the Japanese Consul that opium is for medicinal use among Japanese shall be quite sufficient to pass that drug in freely.

Let us look now at the tariff. Japan objects strongly to *ad valorem*, and wants specific duties; accordingly we find that every item in the Korean tariff is *ad valorem*. Nominally this tariff is 5 to 30 per cent., really it is a 5 per cent. tariff on Japanese goods—precisely the tariff which Japan complains is bringing financial and commercial ruin to herself. True there are certain articles paying 8, 10, 20, and 30 per cent., but they are almost without exception articles, not of Japanese, but of foreign manufacture. Under 5 per cent. we find camphor, copper, kerosine oil (which will arrive in Korea through Japan), "paper used by Japanese," "Japanese provisions," and "articles in common use by Japanese" (a wide phrase). Yet Japan demands 30 per cent. for "foreign provisions" and "articles in common use by foreigners." Japanese cloth stuffs are almost all subject to a duty of 8 per cent. What, then, it may be asked, pay high duties in this tariff prepared and carried through by oppressed and ill-treated Japan? Gold and silver ware and electro-plate, velvets, carpets, foreign spirits, and wines, and the like pay 20 to 30 per cent. Japanese *saké*, by the way, pays only 8 per cent. in Korea. The tariff, in short, amounts to this:—Japanese productions, and articles generally required by Japanese in Korea, pay 5 to 8 per cent. *ad valorem*; Japan demands that foreign productions, and articles generally required by foreigners in Japan, shall pay 25 to 30 per cent.

We should be pleased to receive some explanation of what at present looks like inconsistency. Either Japan has treated Korea heartlessly and cruelly, or she has not. If she has not, then she has no ground of complaint against foreigners for doing the same; but if she has it would be more consistent that she purged herself from her offences, and came into Court with clean hands. No one can blame Japan for endeavouring to obtain all she can, but on this occasion she lays herself open to the retort *et tu quoque*.

The charges preferred in the beginning of this article against Japanese officials and residents in Korea are the only fragment of the writer's views which appear to have any solid basis. Rough and arrogant conduct has been attributed to Japanese settlers in Korea by more than one authority, and, on the other hand, has been resolutely denied by some, or excused by others on the ground of the relations of conqueror and conquered which formerly existed between the two countries. But there is probably as little warrant for the complete denial as there is need of the recondite excuse. Japanese can be truculent and overbearing when they please, and in Korea they have much to encourage and little to restrain the exercise of these propensities. We cannot see, however, that anything is to be gained by proving that one's neighbours are not better than oneself. Unless it is proposed to plead Japanese imitation in justification of foreign "violence and outrage," the discussion appears fruitless. Some better evidence, too, is required of our contemporary's allegations than the mere statement of a journalist who can assert that while "a small English and French force was maintained at Yokohama, Japan maintains in Korea a large force of armed 'police.'" The facts are that England and

France maintained a force of fully a thousand men at Yokohama, and that Japan has forty-five policemen and 200 soldiers in Korea.* If a thousand Englishmen and Frenchmen is a small force, and two hundred and forty-five Japanese a large force, the individual Japanese must be a mighty men indeed.

The "powers which Japan claims over her settlements in Korea" are vague matters. In reality they are nothing more than ordinary municipal powers, similar to those exercised by the foreign residents in Kobe, and less than those exercised by the foreign residents in Shanghai. But whether they are great or small, we have to remember that what Japan complains of in this matter is, not the claims to municipal power advanced on behalf of foreigners, but the obstructions opposed to the efficient exercise of any power at all. The Japanese authorities are required to govern municipally in the foreign settlements, and at the same time denied the power of enacting or enforcing municipal regulations. They find that anomaly a little irksome, and so do the foreign residents themselves.

It is scarcely necessary to direct attention to the singular confusion of ideas apparent in the charge that Japan "demands from the West rights and privileges which she resolutely refuses to Korea." Granting, for a moment, the propriety of the accusation, does our contemporary gravely propose to place Japan and Korea on the same level to-day? This, it seems to us, is precisely, the singular injustice which underlies many of the arguments applied by foreign writers to Japan's claims. This it is which induces some critics to meet her efforts to recover the rights of an independent nation—rights on behalf of which we are proud to remember how much our own ancestors suffered—by an objection that what is granted to her must equally be granted to China and Korea. This it is which lies at the root of the resolute resolve not to understand her contention, or to acknowledge that she can possibly be inspired by feelings to lack which would render any Western people despicable in our eyes. She is not inconsistent when she "quarrels with extraterritoriality and yet establishes it for her own subjects in Korea." All her statesmen and writers have admitted that extraterritoriality was necessary here in the early days of foreign intercourse. But that extraterritoriality should be rigidly maintained when the conditions which justified it have in great part disappeared, and when it constitutes an effective bar to ex-

*In 1864, the English and French forces stationed at Yokohama numbered 1201, rank and file, with 10 guns, 4 mortars, and 1 rocket tube. When Mr. Hanabusa returned to Seoul after the rebellion in 1881, he was escorted by 1 battalion (800 men). At the conclusion of the negotiations, half of this battalion was withdrawn, and in August last, half of the remainder. There remains in Seoul, at present, one company of 200 men, all told. In addition to these, the following police force is maintained:—at Seoul, 3 constables and 1 inspector; at Inchon, 10 constables and 1 inspector; at Pusan, 15 constables and 2 inspectors; and at Gensan, 12 constables and 1 inspector.

tended intercourse—this it is of which Japan complains, and justly complains. When she claims extraterritorial privileges for her subjects residing in Korea, she is pursuing a policy the justice of which she never denied when applied to herself under similar circumstances.

Turning to our London contemporary's more specific accusations, we find it stated that "Japan at present refuses to all but one or two favoured individuals the right to charter foreign vessels to visit unopened ports," but that "she appears in Korea as the apostle of a free coasting trade." We are not left in any doubt as to the evidence in support of this assertion. Article 34 of the regulations is quoted as providing that "Korean subjects may freely charter Japanese merchant vessels," and Article 22, as providing that "Japanese vessels may convey goods of any country whatsoever between the trading ports of Korea." Now here is what the regulations themselves say:

Art. 34.—Any Japanese merchant vessel may be chartered by the Korean Government, or by any Korean subjects to convey goods, persons, &c., to any of the non-opened harbours in Korea; but in the latter case the charterer shall first obtain a license from the Government.

Art. 22.—Until such time as the mercantile marine of Korea is in a condition to carry on satisfactorily the coastwise trade of Korea, all Japanese vessels may transport goods of any country whatever from one open port to another in Korea. * * * * * When the Korean Mercantile Marine shall have become sufficient for the coasting trade of Korea, no foreign vessels shall be employed in transporting the Korean produce from one port to another.

The reader will look with astonishment at this evidence that in Korea Japan is "the apostle of a free coasting trade." Under the provisions of these two Articles there is not conferred on Japanese in Korea a single privilege which foreigners do not enjoy in Japan. Foreign vessels have always been free to carry, and do now carry, passengers and merchandise between the open ports of Japan; and Japanese subjects have always been free, and are now free, to charter foreign vessels to convey goods and persons to unopened ports of Japan, provided that they first obtain a license from the Government. So far, then, from "demanding in Korea privileges which they desire to refuse in their own country," the fact is that, while asking for the same privileges, the Japanese set to the period of their enjoyment a limit which foreigners in Japan are not asked to accept.

It is conceivable that the *London and China Express* may have been grossly misinformed with regard to the actual terms of these regulations. But surely no special information was needed to show that if Japan establishes post offices in Korea, it is because the Koreans have nothing worthy of the name; and that if she passes in medicinal opium under the guarantee of her own Consul, it is because Korea does not even pretend to have competent chemical experts. When Korea possesses postal systems and scientific inspectorates such as this country has so successfully established, her claims to perform those

functions of Government independently will, we venture to predict, obtain ready recognition at Japan's hands.

That "Japan objects strongly to *ad valorem*, and wants specific duties," is one of the statements which, when recently advanced by the *Daily News*, was pointed to by a leading merchant of Yokohama as an example of signal ignorance. But whatever Japan wants, it is certain that the duties in the Korean tariff were made *ad valorem* at the request of Korea herself. So far from this being a condition imposed by Japan, it was actually opposed by her. It is a concession, not an exaction.

Perhaps the most singular exhibition of injustice in this singularly unjust article is the attempt to show that Japan has obtained from Korea a scale of duties more favorable to herself than she is willing to concede to Western Powers. Nothing in Japan's foreign policy is less vulnerable than this very phase of her relations with Korea. Under the treaty of 1876, the trade between the two countries was free. Goods entering to Korea from Japan paid no duty. Korea had no custom houses, and did not think it worth her while to establish any. But when she opened her ports to other nations, she became desirous of raising a revenue by customs duties. Japan was not under any written engagement to further the accomplishment of that desire. She might have insisted on maintaining the old state of affairs. But, whether from motives of policy or justice, she readily acknowledged an obligation not to hold Korea to concessions granted under circumstances now wholly altered. In fact, so far from treating Korea harshly or selfishly, she did by her precisely as she asks to be done by herself. The returns of Korea's foreign trade prepared in H.B.M.'s Legation, show that the bulk of the goods imported by Japanese merchants into Pusan and Gensan are articles of foreign manufacture, and these, as the *London and China Express* explains, pay duties of from 8 to 20 per cent. under the new tariff. So far as we can judge, the trade regulations upon which our London contemporary comments so recklessly, must have the effect of entirely depriving Japanese import merchants in Korea of the favorable opportunities they enjoyed under the former régime. They will be at once undersold if they attempt to obtain foreign goods *via* Japan, and when foreign goods are excluded their commerce in imports will be virtually *nil*. To state the case justly, it is necessary to say, not that Japan has imposed on Korea a tariff less favorable than she claims for herself, but that she has exchanged her treaty rights of free commerce for a scale of duties which will divert the trade in imports from her own hands, and that she has made this concession, whether politic or generous, in deference to Korea's fiscal needs, and to the principle that treaties, like everything else, are not independent of circumstances.

MONOMETALLISM AND JAPANESE TRADE.

THIS community ought to be exceptionally capable of appreciating the commercial results of monometallism. The crisis through which Japan is now passing is but an accentuated example of the same influences. Here, during the past two years, we have had thrust upon our notice, in the most unpleasantly persistent manner, the economical truth that prices are governed by the volume of the medium in which they are expressed. The rapid contraction of the bulk of this country's paper currency has been attended by a general fall of prices, and though the effect has not borne a mathematical ratio to the cause, the nature of the phenomenon is not capable of misinterpretation. The table of comparative values which we recently published showed, plainly enough, that the energy of Japanese producers and manufacturers has been, for some time, paralyzed by the knowledge that they have a falling market to anticipate, and that while their returns are diminishing, the burden of their pecuniary obligations is continually increasing. These evils will not cease to be sensible till the resumption of specie payments provides an automatic adjuster of the volume of media of exchange in circulation, and thus eliminates a disturbing factor which ought never to exist under any sound system of finance.

The effects of monometallism, though more remote and therefore less perceptible, are precisely similar. Foreign merchants engaged in the Eastern trade are dealing in a constantly appreciating currency. The markets are always against them. In the interval between the shipment of European exports and their arrival in Japan, prices are almost invariably found to have declined in Europe. Then the telegraph comes into play. Consumers at this side of the water are perfectly familiar with the London quotations of the day, and know that the importer must regulate his sales by present values, not with reference to his original outlay. Exporters of Japanese products, on the other hand, have to base their purchases on the prices ruling in Europe at the moment, and not on the lower prices which they generally find there two or three months later. Thus the demonetization of silver and consequent reduction in the volume of the purchasing medium produce, throughout the whole Eastern trade, effects exactly analogous to those resulting from the appreciation of *Kinsatsu* in Japan. The only difference is that in the former case gold is appreciating; in the latter, paper.

It is not singular that the advocates of monometallism should either be reluctant to admit these inferences, or, admitting them, refuse to acknowledge their importance. The great aim of their system being to secure a perfectly stable medium of exchange, they are naturally averse to

accept the responsibility of having introduced a powerful factor of disturbance. Yet, to be consistent, they ought not to shirk that responsibility. For when they set about reducing, by fifty per cent., the bulk of the precious metals in circulation, they have either to deny that the prices of commodities are regulated by the volume of those metals in use as money, or to confess that a large contraction of the latter must be followed by a corresponding appreciation of the former. Doubtless the time will come when the contraction now in process will have reached its final point, and prices will then cease to be influenced by this particular factor of disturbance. But in the interim, the world will have made terrible sacrifices; sacrifices which our correspondent "T.W." contemplates with just apprehension; which are already becoming intolerable, and which will not be compensated by their result. For it has recently been shown by convincing statistics that the average annual production of gold and silver together is a much more constant quantity than the average annual production of either alone; so that even when silver is completely demonetized and gold becomes the sole unit of value, the volume of the circulating medium, and therefore its purchasing power, will be more variable than ever. The publication of these statistics has largely modified our own views on the subject, and, together with other conditions, is beginning to disturb monometallists in England also. Sooner or later, the commercial world will perceive the true cause of the disastrous conditions under which trade is now carried on between the East and the West, and we shall then see men busy themselves with compensatory vigour about problems which they now treat as scientific fantasies.

THE "DAILY NEWS" AND ITS CRITICS.

AN article recently published by the London *Daily News* has been made the subject of a great deal of comment by the local press and its correspondents. The portions of the article which seem to have given most umbrage are the following:—

The circumstances under which the tariff, as framed by Lord Elgin, was altered in 1866 to its present shape to suit the narrow views of a few resident foreign traders, are still remembered by them (the Japanese) with bitterness. Weak as Japan's Government had been in 1858, they were in 1865 yet weaker—harassed by internal military and political feuds and intrigues, which were daily growing worse and worse, and beset on the one hand by their own malcontents, on the other by foreign aggressions and claims. Sweeping changes were wrought in the tariff under this new and extremely one-sided convention. The import duties, which Lord Elgin had fixed at about 20 per cent., were reduced to rates of which the maximum was 5 per cent., while the average is understood to be now little more than 3 per cent. No corresponding advantages were granted to the Japanese, who, moreover, were required, in addition to some minor concessions, to provide lighthouses, buoys, beacons, &c., for the safer navigation of the treaty harbours and approaches thereto, a condition which they have more than honestly fulfilled. It is unques-

tionable, and has, indeed, been openly admitted, that these terms were extorted from the Government by the pressure of superior force, against their will, and at a time when they were utterly helpless. It is equally certain that no proceeding in the whole history of the treaties rankles so deeply in the minds of Japanese. If the reduction of the duties had wrought what was expected from it in the way of augmenting foreign trade with Japan, that would have been a source of some satisfaction on our side. But it has not done so, and the revised tariff cannot be called a success. Trade has advanced under it but moderately, and the good it has done can hardly be made a ground for its retention. By the Japanese, on the other hand, the low scale of the present tariff, under which their whole customs dues yield them little more than 4 per cent. of the national revenue, is looked upon as a just grievance. They urge that the common national right of regulating their own duties—a right which, as they take care to point out, Great Britain cedes freely to her colonies—is at the present time of high importance to their financial policy, the freedom of which has been in this respect so long infringed.

It is undeniable that this statement contains inaccuracies, or, to speak more correctly, an inaccuracy. Instead of saying of the customs dues that "the average is understood to be now little more than 3 per cent.," the writer should have said that, since the revised tariff came into force, the duties collected have averaged from 2.3 per cent. to 4.1 per cent. We apply this correction, not from any estimate of our own, but from the figures given by those who have undertaken to criticise the *Daily News*. The statistics for six years are adduced by these critics, and from them we learn that the average of the duties collected was 3.5 per cent. Thus, if the statement of our London contemporary were altered so as to read "the average actually collected is understood to have been little more than 3 per cent.," it would be strictly consistent with facts.

The *Daily News* is also charged with "asserting that foreign trade has not been augmented by reduction of tariff." We cannot find any such assertion in the article under review. What the writer says is that the reduction of duties did not augment trade as much as was expected; that "trade has advanced but moderately under the revised tariff," and that "the good the tariff has done can hardly be made a ground for its retention." He plainly admits that the reduction of duties did exercise some effect, but not an effect proportionate to the increase of revenue that might have been obtained under different rates. It is, of course, impossible to analyze, with any degree of accuracy, the different causes which have conspired to promote the growth of Japan's foreign trade from sixteen, to sixty-five, millions. To deny that low duties have exercised a healthy influence would be just as unwarranted as to argue that because trade has developed, its development is chiefly an evidence of the effect of low duties. Japan's foreign commerce is but a fraction of what it ought to be, and we do not believe, not can they pretend who constantly complain of its tardy growth, that it has yet come within measurable distance of the point where a difference of four or five per cent in tariff rates would sensibly promote or retard its advance.

In the early part of the present century the scientific world was astonished at the high degree of mental caloric developed by two renowned astronomers who differed about the parallax of a fixed star. Arithmetic is not generally regarded as a heating subject, but the experiences of Yokohama go to correct this notion. The figures given by the *Daily News* have raised quite a tempest of wrath, and been twisted, by a device more ingenious than ingenuous, into a weapon of attack on the Japanese Government. Mr. A. J. WILKIN, a leading merchant of Yokohama, and a gentleman whose desire to be just is beyond question, addresses a local contemporary on the subject in terms of diverting vehemence. He sets out by expressing his surprise that the "*Daily News* should be the vehicle of such outrageously false statements respecting tariff treaties with Japan," and asks "is this the class of information obtained by 'Our own Correspondent' at that gracious interview which so dazzled his vision that he hastened to announce by wire to Europe the secrets which had been revealed to him?" The journal to which Mr. WILKIN addresses himself echoes his question by repeating it in another form:—"Are these the weapons to which the Government are reduced to carry on their war against foreign oppression and the narrow views of foreign residents?" By what right or on what authority Mr. WILKIN assumes either that the special correspondent of the *Daily News* is the author of the article in question, or that the Japanese Government is responsible for its contents, we are at a loss to conceive. That he distinctly suggests both these inferences is evident from the extract quoted, as well as from the last sentence of his letter, in which he says:—"It is to be regretted that Japan should either employ or accept tactics which consist in the dissemination of mendacious representations: for some of her agents or agencies, no method seems to be too false or too cowardly." The value of words varies according to the frame of mind of their employer. To us, writing at some distance beyond the range of Mr. WILKIN's warmth, it seems that if the terms "false and cowardly" are applicable at all in this context, they must be applied to those who, on the strength of a mere assumption, publicly formulate unjust charges against officials who are not in a position to publicly refute them. As it happens, Mr. WILKIN's hypothesis with regard to the article in the *Daily News* is wholly incorrect. From what we know privately of its authorship, the Japanese Government is not more responsible for its contents than Mr. WILKIN himself. But even if it were not so, what has Mr. WILKIN to do with the author or his inspiration? These endeavours to probe motives, and this disposition to prefer recrimination to logic, are traits which we should never have looked for in the writings of Mr. A. J. WILKIN, and which betray the weakness of his

cause far more than any arguments that can be advanced on the other side.

It will not be uninteresting to examine briefly the "outrageously false statements respecting tariff treaties with Japan" and the "mendacious misrepresentations" which Mr. WILKIN so severely condemns. We recently had occasion to comment on the grave and cruelly unjust inaccuracies contained in a speech made by the same gentleman, at the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, on the subject of treaty revision. We now observe that he cannot be accurate even when quoting the words of an opponent. He makes the *Daily News* say that Lord ELGIN's tariff treaty was one of a "20 per cent. average duty." The *Daily News* does not say so. What it says is that Lord ELGIN "fixed the import duties at about 20 per cent." The fact is that Lord ELGIN's tariff was fixed on a twenty per cent. basis. Certain articles paid duties of only five per cent., and as cotton and woollen manufactures were included among these, the average duty actually leviable did not, probably, exceed 9 per cent. The writer in the *Daily News* would have done better to state the lower figure. It would have served the purposes of his argument equally well. But no reasonable person can pretend that he is guilty of "an outrageously false statement" or a "mendacious misrepresentation," because he applies the general description "about twenty per cent" to duties ranging from 5 to 35 per cent.

The most remarkable portion of Mr. WILKIN's letter is his statement of the circumstances under which a revision of the tariff was effected in 1866:—

If I mistake not "the circumstances under which the tariff was altered from its primitive form to the elaborate one of 1866, were not only that the then tariff was inadequate to the expanded condition of the trade, but that so much corruption prevailed at the Custom House that at one time probably not more than a third of the duties was collected. I remember making at that time an official representation on this last subject for the use of our Minister. To say that "these terms were extorted from the Government by the pressure of superior force" is a flagrant misrepresentation. I venture to assert that when the tariff of 1866 came into work, the amounts collected for duties must have greatly increased, possibly doubled. It was one of many friendly acts done by foreign representatives to help to free the country from that scandalous corruption about which old residents can tell such tales. But I suppose that this is a kind of service not altogether acceptable in some quarters.

It is difficult to suppose that this is gravely put forward as an explanation of the circumstances under which the tariff was revised in 1866. We are asked to believe that the customs duties were reduced from an average of about 9 per cent. to an average of less than five, merely to free Japan from "scandalous corruption" which largely reduced her revenue. We are asked to believe that it is a flagrant misrepresentation to say that the pressure of superior force was exercised in securing the reduced terms. We are asked to believe that as articles enumerated under the five per cent. clause of Lord ELGIN's tariff "constituted the bulk of the trade," the reduction of duties under the new

tariff was insignificant. And finally, we are asked to believe that this revision of the tariff was "one of many friendly acts done by foreign representatives" to correct abuses from which Japan alone suffered.

Mr. WILKIN's idea as to the amount and purpose of the reduction effected does not tally, we observe, with the opinion of the journal to which he addresses himself. The latter says that the new tariff "wrought sweeping changes," and that "it was intended for that purpose, because trade was so hampered by duties that extension was impossible without a reduction in the tariff." One or other of the two views must be incorrect. We cannot be expected to believe, at one and the same moment, that "sweeping" reductions were made with the object of expanding trade, and that the tariff was only elaborated, to suit an expanded trade and to improve the morality of Japanese officials. The Blue Books help us to choose between these contradictions. Mr. WINCHESTER, H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires, was the first to suggest, officially, "the reduction of import duties, now levied at 5, 6, and 20 per cent. on different classes of goods to an uniform rate of 5 per cent." In his despatch recommending this reduction, he says that "the change would be of great convenience to foreign commerce, and, by stimulating consumption, would probably be attended with no material diminution to the Japanese revenue."¹ According to the QUEEN'S Representative, then, there was only a hope that the change might so expand commerce as to cause no material reduction of the customs' revenue. According to Mr. WILKIN, one of the principal objects of the change was to increase that revenue.

Mr. WINCHESTER, we say, was the first to suggest this change officially. The circumstances under which he made the suggestion, and under which the change was effected, were briefly these:—The TAIKUN's Government owed the Treaty Powers three million dollars, being "a pecuniary ransom for the town of Shimono-seki and an indemnity to cover the expenses of an expedition against the Prince of NAGATO."² The British Chargé d'Affaires pointed out to his Government that "the known state of the finances of the Taikunate induced him to believe that the obligation to pay so large an indemnity would be felt as a very grievous burden;" that he feared the indemnity would be "nothing but an additional duty levied on foreign commerce;" that its "protracted payment seemed very much like hanging a millstone for five or six years, round the neck of our trade;" and that, under the circumstances, he recommended a proposal "to take as an equivalent for the moiety or two-thirds of the indemnity, some such concessions as the opening of Hi-yogo on the 1st of January, 1866; the

written adhesion of the MIKADO to the Treaties; and the reduction of import duties now levied at 5, 6, and 20 per cent. on different classes of goods to an uniform rate of 5 per cent." The British Government recognized the wisdom of this advice and consulted with the other Treaty Powers. France replied that she "considered it would not be opportune at present to ask for the opening of Hi-yogo and Osaka;" that "from the moment when the Cabinet of Yeddo decided, as they had a right to decide, for the payment of a pecuniary indemnity, no grounds remained for imposing on them another manner of acquitting their obligations;" and that "judging from the repugnance which the Japanese Government had evinced on this subject, such a request would now again occasion serious difficulties, and might in the end lead to war."⁴ It was subsequently decided, however, that the alternative should be offered, and Sir HARRY PARKES was instructed accordingly. The result was that the Foreign Representatives proceeded to Osaka with a fleet of nine vessels of war, and obtained, not an exchange of one obligation for another, but "the ratification of the Treaties by the MIKADO; an agreement to revise the tariff, and an engagement that the indemnity should be punctually discharged."⁵ They did not obtain the opening of a port, being "clearly persuaded that while the neighbourhood of Hi-yogo and Osaka continued to be the scene of military movements and political agitation, those places could not be occupied by foreign merchants without considerable risk,"⁶ but they obtained what they considered "a far more valuable concession."⁷ In short, they went to Osaka with an imposing naval force, to offer to remit a war indemnity of two millions in exchange for three concessions, one of which, they saw, could not possibly be granted. They "held the decided opinion that the confirmation of the Treaties by the MIKADO formed by far the most valuable of the three conditions they were instructed to accept in exchange for two-thirds of the indemnity."⁸ They obtained that confirmation, as well as the third condition, that the duties should be reduced to the uniform rate of 5 per cent., and "in reporting the important advantages secured," their Doyen "reminded" his Government that "no portion of the indemnity had been relinquished, although two of the three conditions they were willing to receive in exchange had been secured."⁹ With regard to the part played by the fleet in this remarkable negotiation, which, while ostensibly undertaken to effect an exchange of obligations, was in reality a method of imposing two new obligations, the state-

⁴ Mr. Drouyu de Lhuys to the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne: communicated to Mr. Winchester by Earl Russell. July 26th 1865.

⁵ Sir H. Parkes to Earl Russell. January 29th, 1866.

⁶ Sir H. Parkes to Earl Russell. November 28th, 1865.

⁷ Idem.

⁸ Sir H. Parkes to Earl Russell. January 29th, 1866.

⁹ Idem.

¹ Mr. Winchester to Earl Russell. April 25th, 1865.

² Earl Russell to Sir F. Bruce. March 30th, 1865.

³ Mr. Winchester to Earl Russell. April 12th, 1865.

ments of Sir HARRY PARKES himself leave us in no doubt:—"My colleagues and myself," he wrote to the British Admiral, "are fully sensible that we are indebted for whatever success has attended our efforts to the efficient and generous aid of our naval commanders, and it would be superfluous for me to point to the extent to which that success is attributable to your exertions:" while, in a despatch to Earl RUSSELL (Nov. 25th, 1865), he said:—"Speaking after the event, I can assert with confidence that had it not been for the presence of the allied-fleet on this occasion, the TAIKUN would not have been persuaded to make to the MIKADO those energetic remonstrances and representations without which union between these rulers on the subject of the Treaties and the foreign policy they render necessary, would not have been effected."

Where, in all this, can there be detected any shadow of a friendly design "to free Japan from the scandalous corruption" of her customs officials? When Mr. WILKIN speaks of "altering the tariff from its primitive form to the elaborate one of 1866," he may himself forget, but he cannot make others forget, that a fleet of foreign war-vessels had, in 1865, virtually dictated the terms upon which that alteration was to be effected. The facts of history cannot be perverted by petulant animadversions. It is very probable that great corruption existed among the Japanese Custom House officials in former years, but it is well known by the "old residents" of whom Mr. WILKIN speaks, that the false invoices presented by foreign traders were a not less powerful factor in reducing the revenue returns. To ignore the one species of fraud and blazen the other abroad may be patriotic, but certainly is not just. Essays have been composed ere now for the purpose of glossing over the methods employed in 1865 to obtain a fifty per cent. reduction of Lord ELGIN's tariff, but it was reserved for Mr. WILKIN to advance the splendid paradox that one of the three conditions which the Treaty Powers offered to exchange for a war indemnity due by Japan was her consent to a friendly process of freeing her own administration from costly corruption. It is to be desired that Mr. WILKIN, before making speeches and publishing letters eminently calculated to inflame the public mind, would take some pains to study facts. His intellect may be so constituted that he cannot credit his adversaries with either honesty or courage, but it will not, we trust, be a confession of weakness, to leave to him a monopoly of that species of scepticism. It is not "the agents or agencies of Japan" that he charges with "outrageously false statements," with "mendacious representations," and with "false and cowardly methods," but the officials who have represented his Sovereign at the Japanese Court and the despatches which have been presented by his Government to both Houses of Parliament.

THE PROPOSED CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY.

TWO Gentlemen of Tokiyo, writing over the signatures "Ferrex and Porrex," recently addressed to this journal a letter criticizing and condemning a scheme formulated by the Rev. C. S. EBY for the establishment of a Christian University in Japan. In reply, Mr. EBY propounds certain questions, which we willingly proceed to answer, the importance of the subject being sufficient to warrant its public discussion even at this early stage.

Mr. EBY asks us, first, whether the character given to his scheme by "Ferrex and Porrex" corresponds with its outlines as published in the appendix to a pamphlet entitled "The Immediate Christianization of Japan." Were we to answer this question frankly, we should be obliged to confess that "Ferrex and Porrex" do not appear to have read the pamphlet at all. It is, however, impossible to suppose that they undertook to discuss a subject which they had made no attempt to examine. They probably read the pamphlet; though it must be confessed that their letter contains no evidence of the fact.

To make the matter clear, we cannot do better than restate the scheme. The prospectus of its projectors lies before us, and the very clear language in which it is couched leaves no room for misapprehension.

The general outline of the project is the establishment of a Central University to be fed by Preparatory Schools and Academies. The necessity for such a work is based upon the national craving which Japan exhibits for western education, and upon the incapacity of existing machinery to satisfy that craving. It has long been evident to those who know the country that its resources are not equal to its aspirations in this matter. When the masses of the people began to recognize that their place among the nations of the world must depend upon the success of their efforts to recover the ground lost during centuries of seclusion, a wonderful impulse towards Western philosophies and sciences led to the establishment of schools everywhere, and to the general employment of foreign teachers. As might have been expected, this impulse was neither always economically wise, nor always fortunate in its indiscriminately employed foreign aid. Little by little foreign teachers were of necessity dispensed with, and the educational ideal originally conceived had to be modified. The Missionaries, according to their public statements, believe that any help they can give, or procure, to advance the country's progress towards its first intention will be of large benefit at this juncture. There is also another important consideration connected with the general conception of their scheme. It is that in the wave of progressive effort which swept over Japan after the contact with the outer world, many of the landmarks by which society had been

guided in the past, went down, never probably to rise again. In the old Confucian philosophy there were very tolerable materials for building up, round a domestic centre, a solid social and national structure. But Confucianism did not escape the discredit that befel everything of purely Oriental origin. It was ousted from the schools and nothing took its place. Education became purely secular. There are, indeed, many who believe that scholastic training ought never to travel beyond secular lines, and that its moral supplement should be supplied within the family circle. But the instincts of humanity have always rejected such a notion. Japan is to-day feeling, and feeling keenly, the extinction of her old lights before the new were kindled. Many a man who knows nothing of Christianity beyond the doubtful reputation its early professors left behind them here, is yet constrained to confess that in the Missionary Schools alone can a parent now look to obtain for his child the moral culture which Confucianism once afforded after a fashion. The Missionaries would not be true to themselves or to the cause they serve if they let slip such an opportunity. By a wisely exercised and earnest effort, they may, and probably will, succeed in grafting on the educational systems of this country, and on the minds of the rising generation, those elements of Christian morality which are an integral part of the civilization Japan is adopting.

So much for the general conception of the scheme. We proceed, now, to consider briefly the details which have excited criticism. "Ferrex and Porrex" begin by deducing from experience an inference that the co-existence of two universities in one city is impossible. In support of this theory they point to the Roman Catholic University of Ireland and the Roman Catholic University of Kensington. But it seems to us that these are scarcely cases in point. Both these Universities were established with the avowed intention of perpetuating a system which had just been abandoned at the institutions they sought to rival, and which was in direct opposition to the growing liberality of the time. Under such circumstances their failure was natural. But the proposed University for this country aims at nothing further than to engraft upon its educational scheme those moral influences which, though active in every similar institution in Western Europe, are wanting in Japan. It seems to us that our correspondents make the mistake of forgetting the different conditions they have to deal with in Europe and Japan.

Other special causes of probable failure are adduced. "An university," we are told, "grows but is not made. To found an university without knowing exactly what class of students will come, what has been their previous education, and what is to be their subsequent career, is a very rash proceeding." We cannot pretend to follow

the line of argument, or even to trace the sequence of ideas, in these sentences. That an university grows, like everything else, may readily be admitted. But unless "Ferrex and Porrex" advocate the development of a Japanese university from one of its embryonic forms, a school, a seminary, or a college, we do not see why they should object to its being founded and endowed as has been the case with every other similar institution, all the world over. They think it rash to set about making an university unless an exact knowledge exists of the class of students that will come there, their previous education and their subsequent career. As it happens, this objection is in part irrelevant, seeing that the proposed Christian university would be fed by its own schools and academies. But we are curious to learn whether in any part of Europe or America there is an university which gives itself the slightest concern about its students before their matriculation or after their graduation. We know of none; nor do we believe that any university of such a meddlesome disposition could possibly prosper. "Ferrex and Porrex" are evidently under the impression that, in Japan, professional success is inseparable from officialdom. "The Government Colleges," they say, "are mere gateways to Government posts. No man in Japan can set up as an engineer, architect, lawyer, or doctor, unless he is a functionary of the Government." A more erroneous statement could scarcely be made. It is true that the Government, by providing free education for a certain class of students at the Engineering College, establishes a claim upon their subsequent services. But no one can pretend to think that there is not, or will not hereafter be, any want of engineers, architects, chemists, or mineralogists outside official circles. As for the assertion that no man can set up as a lawyer or doctor unless he is a functionary of the Government, it is curiously incorrect. Nine out of ten lawyers and physicians now practicing have no connection whatsoever with the Government.

These hasty objections prepare us for the graver misrepresentations which follow. "Ferrex and Porrex" describe the proposed university as a place where religious tests would exist for the professors, and where literature, science, and philosophy would be taught explicitly from a theological point of view. The only religious test for the teachers, as Mr. EBY explains, would be the broad one of Christianity versus Paganism, while for the students, there would be no tests at all. Needless to say that the teaching of literature, science, and philosophy explicitly from a theological point of view is not contemplated at all.

More important than these objections, in fact "the most important objection of all," we are told, is that the university would be "under the dictation of foreigners

and the exponent of a religion which has been hated for centuries." It cannot be denied that under existing circumstances—so long as foreigners in Japan constitute a distinct class, outside Japanese jurisdiction and not amenable to any laws of Japanese origin—an university entirely controlled by aliens might labour under some disabilities. This is not the only, nor even the most serious, obstacle presented to missionary enterprise by the present international arrangements. But things will not always be as they are now. It is not extravagant to look forward to the day when a system only calculated to perpetuate race prejudices will have yielded to more rational and civilized influences. Certainly, so far as the Japanese Government is concerned, we may safely predict that its inclination would be to extend to a Christian University, established on the broad lines contemplated by Mr. EBY's scheme, all the rights and privileges enjoyed by any other educational institution in this country: and upon the attitude of the Government a great deal would of course depend. As for the contention that the university would be "the exponent of a religion which has been hated for centuries," were its validity admitted by the missionaries they might pack their carpet bags and get away as quickly as possible. Their whole work in this empire is open to the same objection. Yet they have accomplished a great deal, and every year that passes brings a larger promise of success. From what we know of Japan, we are persuaded that if Christian morality is ever to obtain a permanent footing, it must find its way to the hearts of the people, in great part, through their schools and colleges. There it is that the incongruities and imperfections of Confucianism will first be fully recognized, and there it is that the want of something better will be most keenly felt. If that want is ever to be supplied, it will not be by such timid casuists as "Ferrex and Porrex."

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

MR. WILKIN AND THE "DAILY NEWS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have been surprised and amused by Mr. Wilkin's letter in the *Gazette* about the article in the London *Daily News* regarding Treaty Revision. Mr. Wilkin could hardly have read the article, otherwise he would not have been so intemperate, not to say uncharitable. The article in the *Daily News* dealt entirely with facts, and was exceedingly dispassionate. It was written by a servant of the Queen, who spent many years in the East, and not by the special Correspondent of the *Daily News*, as Mr. Wilkin has hastily conjectured without any sufficient reason. Mr. Wilkin's statements, that "It is to be regretted that Japan should either employ or accept tactics which consist in the dissemination of mendacious representations," and that "for some of her agents or agencies, no method seems to be too false or too cowardly" remind me of the famous note to Mr. Gladstone, read by him in the House of Commons during the debate in 1878, regarding

military preparations (*i.e.* the additional vote of credit for £6,000,000):—

Your's not to reason why,
Your's not to make reply,
Our's but to say you lie—
Vote the six millions.

I think, before Mr. Wilkin next rushes into print, he should try to read the article he denounces as "mendacious;" and I think that, as a Christian gentleman, he should endeavour to ascertain who the writer of the article is, before he denounces him as an agent of the Japanese Government.

During the silk difficulty, it was Mr. Wilkin's speech which inflamed the Japanese, and now he again comes forward as a denouncer.

Another matter deserves note. No doubt prior to 1868, few customs duties were collected owing to venality on the part of the Tokugawa Customs officers and general low declarations of value on the part of foreign merchants; but I remember well when the present Government came into power, in the summer of 1868, that on the appointment of Mr. Wooyeno Kagenori as Commissioner of Customs, a reform was at once commenced, followed by the appointment of competent American appraisers and English advisers; since which time the administration has been well served and an honest collection has resulted. This is due to the steps taken by the present Government; and has nothing whatever to do with any tariffs, whether of 1866 or previously.

The question as to whether the tariff of 1866 was "extorted from the (Japanese) Government by the pressure of superior force" is a matter of history. That history can be read in the Blue Books of Her Majesty's Foreign Office. And that statement seems to be the truth of history. I have a great respect for Mr. Wilkin as a merchant, and I would advise him to either read such history or else to avoid political controversy. Above all, he owes it as a duty to himself, as well as to the community, not to be so hasty in his conclusions and denunciations.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

GILEAD P. BECK.

Tokyo, March 15th, 1884.

THE TRUTH ABOUT SILVER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your article of 10th instant on Bimetallism is a clear and opportune exposition of a question which has serious bearings on the financial policy of Japan, and on all commercial interests in this country, though it will very likely elicit the usual sneers from those who regard the discussion of this subject merely as a proof of crotchety proclivities.

As one who considers the "Silver Question" as second to no other in real importance, and who strongly desires to have it generally and thoroughly understood, I beg leave to indicate two points in your observations which seem to need elucidation, namely: first, that History shows that gold alone is insufficient for the exchanges of the world; and second, that silver has lately depreciated in value.

What I would prefer to say on the first point is that the exclusion of silver from monetary use (in Europe and America), by human law, is a defiance of Nature's purpose in furnishing that metal, which must entail evil and punishment on those who venture it.

History shows that almost any substance may serve as money, on the condition that prices, expressed in that substance, are governed strictly by its volume in actual, or potential, circulation.

It shows also, however, that the automatic adjustment and steadiness of prices necessary to healthy trade is only possible when the production of the monetary substance is limited by natural laws.

By this rule, gold alone would answer tolerably well for a money material. For, although its production has been irregular (far more so than that of silver), yet it is, practically, both limited and ascertainable.

Those who agree with Mr. Cernuschi contend that, as the production of silver and gold together is much more regular than that of either alone, they should be used in combination, at a fixed ratio, so as to give the utmost steadiness to prices; and herein they have History and the universal instincts of mankind on their side. But they do not pretend that gold alone cannot be used for money if men choose to have it so. What they assert on this point, and what is every day being demonstrated by the decline of prices in all gold-using countries, is that such a rejection of one of nature's benefactions is unwise, and that to enact it suddenly, as has been done in Europe and America, and to compel men to work with gold money alone, is a wanton cruelty which inflicts immense suffering on every one engaged in production and trade, or owing debts in money; and furthermore that this suffering is profitable only to a small class of rich persons, but degrading and impoverishing to the

whole body of workers, and wholly unjust, useless, and indefensible. They do not deny that in time the contraction it requires will reach its level; that a so-called adjustment of prices may be attained, and a single gold basis of values established. But they see that to arrive at this result, involves a frightful amount of wholly unnecessary distress, that entirely eclipses the slender and doubtful advantages which the scientific merit of gold money alone can offer to the world. And they believe that as the common sense of mankind awakens, this truth will be perceived, and men will revolt against the oppressive greed, or doctrinarism, which imposes such suffering upon them. Already, in the spread of Socialism and discontent of all sorts, this revolt is showing itself, and as prices continue to fall and distress to extend, it will acquire force which will finally compel those who have done the wrong to repair it, by readmitting Silver into full monetary use.

This, then, is the main and practical importance of this question for men of business. They may well leave the scientific side of it to statisticians and philosophers, but they cannot afford to be indifferent to the steady depreciation of their stocks of commodities, their factories, implements, and machinery of all sorts, or to the converse difficulty they find in meeting their money obligations; and I wish that, as a class, they could be more quickly aroused to a sense of the wrong they are enduring in these respects. For were they generally to recognize it, and demand the only remedy, the insensate war against Silver money and all its fell consequences could soon be made to cease.

As to your second point, that Silver has depreciated in value, I would refer you to the price table hereto appended, which shows that Silver exchanges now for as much, or more, in most commodities (except gold), as it did in 1876, when its demonetization began to take effect. It is easy to see from these figures (taken from the London *Economist*) that Silver has not depreciated in value, but has only fallen in its Gold price, as almost every other commodity has likewise fallen.

The actual fact is that Gold has risen in value exactly as those who urged the expulsion of Silver intended it should. It has so risen owing to the increased demand for it for monetary use, and latterly also to its reduced production. Mr. Goschen and others have clearly proved this appreciation of Gold, and any one may perceive it, and he must feel it, in the continuous fall of the Gold prices of the articles he deals in.

It was the subtle device or the good luck of the advocates of Gold alone as money, to have this movement called "Depreciation of Silver," whereby many who otherwise might have opposed it from the first have been misled into bewildered acquiescence in their own undoing.

Had it been at once known as a design to make Gold dearer, and called by its true name, "Appreciation of Gold," it would probably have long ago encountered the spirited resistance of many who even now do not recognize it as their enemy.

And Gold has become dearer not only on account of the new demands upon it, but also on account of a steady and unexpected diminution in its supply, which fully justifies those who declare its production to be too irregular and precarious to make it alone a sufficiently steady standard of value.

In a recent New York *Financial Chronicle* are some carefully compiled tables which prove this point. They show that while the total production of the world in 1866 was £29,000,000 of Gold, that production steadily declined, until in 1883 it was only £20,600,000, or a sum less than the present annual rate of the consumption of Gold in the arts and in wear of coin, etc.

It follows, therefore, that not only is there no prospect of that increase of the amount of Gold now existing in circulation which the growing numbers and wants of men require, but that the present stock is being continually reduced. Prices in gold must then experience a further fall, and present distress must increase. If this is a prospect with which the majority of men can be content, I prefer remaining with the minority.

But when we have taken the present stock and future supplies of Gold into account, we have not gauged all the influences which threaten prices, and the stability of things generally, in Western countries. For the partisans of Gold money alone have not yet ventured to deploy all their forces; have not dared to carry out to its full extent the whole of their iniquitous theory, and have in reserve a means of wreaking misery which might well excite dismay, if they were likely to survive to use it. Let us turn to the *Financial Chronicle* to find the measure of this force.

The total sum of Gold held in Europe and America in 1883 is reckoned at £435,300,000. But these countries held also £339,000,000 of Silver which they used in place of, and practically counted as, so much Gold; so that the total of their circula-

tion on a Gold basis was over £774,000,000. (That I do not misstate the fact may be readily perceived if it be remembered that Silver Dollars in America, Shillings and Crowns in England, Thalers in Germany, and Francs in France, are all current, not at their value in Silver, but at a legal, fictitious, value in Gold, and hence are equal to a Gold coinage of the same amount.)

Now if, even with this Silver mitigation, the artificially created money famine has already depressed prices so greatly, and produced such a flood of misery, what would be the effect of the complete demonetization of Silver by the expulsion from currency of this £339,000,000? It is nearly 44 per cent. of the whole monetary stock of Europe and America.

Its demonetization would therefore mean a further reduction of all prices by 44 per cent.; that is to say that silk now worth 45 francs per kilo., would bring only 25 francs, and iron now worth 45 shillings per ton would fall to 25 shillings. Can any one consider such a fall in prices without shuddering as to its effects on industry and on society?

Yet, if the Gold maniacs are consistent, and resolute, that, and nothing less, is what must occur. And, in order to force their hand, to precipitate a solution, to arouse men to action in the matter, the bolder partisans of Silver are now urging the Western Governments to take precisely this action. A Bill has been already introduced into the American Congress to abolish the Silver dollar coinage. The next step would be to sell the 200 million Silver dollars already coined; for who sells first will sell best. France would have to take the same line for the same reasons, and hasten to get rid of her £124,000,000. Germany, as original leader in the Gold mania, could hardly stultify herself by demurring, and her £44,000,000 would also come into the market as an unwanted commodity. The crash and slaughter when this reserved force came into action would be terrific.

The friends of the Gold standard ought to be delighted with such a glorious prospect of success. I am glad to doubt, however, that they will survive to enjoy it. For the bold play of the Silver men (urged years ago by Mr. Cernuschi) will probably compel their opponents to recognize the folly and impracticability of their nefarious game and to give it up before much further harm is done.

Meantime, however, these Eastern Nations who accept Silver, and are out of the mad struggle over Gold, should avail of their chance to get good money cheaply, and I hope that what has been now said on the subject will indicate, to Japan at least, an opportunity.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

T. W.

Yokohama, March 12th, 1884.

Table of proportionate prices of sundry chief commodities, of fairly regular supply, based on the number 100, as representing average prices in the years 1845 to 1850. (Extracted from the London *Economist's* Review of 1882.)

	January 1, 1876.	January 1, 1883.
Silver	92	83.3 or—9.5 per cent.
Coffee	183	82
Sugar	67	60
Tea	100	76
Wheat	84	77
Cotton	107	89
Hemp	105	68
Wool	133	106
Oils	116	100
Timber	128	108
Copper	100	80
Iron	125	79
Lead	131	83

Average of 1,379 1,008
12 articles... 115 84. or—27 per cent.

And the prices of January, 1884, were still below those of 1883. These figures show that silver has fallen in price only 9.5 per cent. during the last eight years, while the other commodities named have fallen 27 per cent. Therefore Silver has appreciated in value as compared with these principal commodities.

T. W.

KRUPP AND ARMSTRONG GUNS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The accompanying are copies of a correspondence which has appeared in *Engineering* [issues] of November 30th, December 14th, 1883, and January 11th of this year, respectively:—

(1). Letter signed "Artillerist" denying the superiority of Krupp's guns over those manufactured by Armstrong.

(2). Letter from F. Krupp in reply to the above, proving the figures with which "Artillerist"

attempted to support his assertions to be entirely supposititious and incorrect.

(3). Letter from Mr. J. A. Longridge referring to the gas pressures in the two guns.

This controversy brings before the public all the proofs called for by you in your issue of March 1st, as it shows clearly the superiority of Krupp's guns, and we therefore request you to give this the publicity of your columns in order that any false impressions received by your readers may be removed.

We are, Sir, your obedient Servants,

TAKATA & Co.,

Agents for FRED. KRUPP.

Tokio, 16th March, 1884.

TO THE EDITOR OF "ENGINEERING."

SIR,—In a recent report on certain firing trials at Mep-pen, Mr. Krupp gives the following Table (No. 1), showing the comparative power of the Elswick 12-in. breechloading rifle gun supplied to Spain with that of his own gun of the same diameter of bore:—

TABLE I.

	Krupp	Armstrong
	Gun, 12-in.	Gun, 12-in.
Calibre, mm.	305	305
Length, calibres.	35	28.9
Weight, kg.	49,200	44,350
Weight of battering shell, kg.	455	318
Weight powder charge, kg.	182	149.7
Muzzle velocity, m.	595	935
Energy of projectile:—		
Total, mt.	7493	6529
Per cm. of section, mt.	10.14	8.94
Per cm. of circumference, mt.	77.28	68.1
Per kg. of gun, mkg.	151	147
Per kg. of charge, mt.	45.71	43.6
Thickness of wrought-iron plate perforated at the muzzle, cm.	75.1	68.3
Proportion	1	0.91
Mean pressure of gas, atm.	2630	2745

The Elswick gun, chosen by the Spanish Government for special reasons, has a length of 28 calibres, whereas the gun with which Mr. Krupp compares it is a much longer gun of 35 calibres. Under these circumstances it is not difficult for Mr. Krupp to show that his gun is the more powerful weapon of these two, but how far his further claim that "the Krupp gun remains still always absolutely and relatively superior to the Armstrong gun" is in accordance with actual fact will at once appear from Table No. 2, in which are placed side by side the Krupp gun of 35 calibres long and the Armstrong gun of the same length.

TABLE II.

	Armstrong	Krupp
	Gun, 12-in.	Gun, 12-in.
Calibre, mm.	305	305
Length, calibres.	35	35
Weight, kg.	48,708	49,200
Weight of battering shell, kg.	363	453
Weight of powder charge, kg.	181.5	162
Muzzle velocity, m.	670	595
Energy of projectile:—		
Total, mt.	8300	7493
Per cm. of section, mt.	11.5	10.14
Per cm. of circum. mt.	86.62	77.28
Per kg. of gun, mkg.	170.2	151
Per kg. of charge, mt.	45.75	45.71
Thickness of wrought-iron plate perforated at muzzle, cm.	84.2	75.1
Proportion	—	—
Mean pressure of gas, atm.	2555	2630

It will be seen from these figures that when fairly compared the Krupp gun, instead of remaining absolutely and relatively superior, is in point of fact inferior to the Armstrong gun in every respect.

Are such statements based upon evidently unfair comparisons worthy of Mr. Krupp's renowned gun factory?

I am, Sir, yours truly,

ARTILLERIST.

TO THE EDITOR OF "ENGINEERING."

SIR,—In No. 935 of *Engineering*, edition of the 30th of November, you print a letter on the "Krupp and Armstrong Guns," bearing the signature "Artillerist," which letter contains a charge against me.

This letter is the translation of a circular in the French language, which has been widely distributed in St. Petersburg, bearing the signature "Edward Sydney Schweder, Agent de Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell, and Co.," and must therefore be considered as a circular emanating from Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell, and Co.

I now beg to submit that my statement respecting the results of my guns is completely justified and clearly borne out by the following facts.

1. In the Table I., which is taken from my report No. XLVII., I have used for comparison the results of an Armstrong 12-in. gun which were known to me, though not yet published, and which have not been published till the publication in *Engineering* of the 30th November. 2. In Table II. "Artillerist" gives figures for a 30.5 cm., which does not exist at present, of which I could not have any knowledge and which I therefore could not draw into comparison. "Artillerist's" concluding paragraph, "Are such statements based upon evidently unfair comparisons worthy of Mr. Krupp's renowned gun factory?" implies therefore an unjustifiable reproach.

I should not like, however, to content myself with its refutation, but also prove by the following that the figures given by "Artillerist" in Table II. of the performance of the Armstrong 12-in. gun of 35 calibres length cannot be correct. The Armstrong 12-in. gun given in Table I. obtained the favourable results only by employing the German brown prismatic powder, which is the same powder used by me and which I have brought by my artillery trials to its present development and perfection.

For the comparison it must therefore be taken for granted that in both guns this superior class of powder is employed.

Furthermore, it must be assumed that both guns have the same maximum pressure, as otherwise (as is shown by my report No. XLVII.) for my gun a higher velocity must also be accepted.

Under these obvious suppositions "Artillerist's" figures of the Armstrong gun as given in Table II., are impossible.

He states that in the Armstrong 30.5 cm. gun of 35 calibres length each kilogram of powder gives 45.75 mt. of *vis viva*, whilst the Krupp gun of the same length attains 45.71 mt.

That is impossible, (1) because Armstrong employs a lighter projectile, and (2) because the greater charge which he wants to employ requires a larger space of combustion, and therefore the expansion of the gases must be less in his gun than in Krupp's.

According to the experiments executed by Krupp (Report 47), the utilisation of the powder decreases considerably when the weight of projectile is reduced. With a weight of projectile of 330 kilograms, for instance, the utilisation of the powder was 94 per cent. less than with the weight of 455 kilograms. It must therefore be presumed that with Armstrong's projectile weighing 363 kilograms, against Krupp's projectile of 455 kilograms, the utilisation of the powder (always presuming it to be of the same good quality) will be about 6 per cent. lower.

Further, the charge of 162 kilograms of powder in the Krupp gun had at its disposal per kilogram, a volume of space of combustion of 1.09 dm^3 . Into the same space of combustion it is therefore impossible to bring 181.4 kilograms of powder. The space of combustion must be larger. According to the design of the 12 in. Armstrong gun in the *Spanish Artillery Journal* of April, 1883, the space of combustion of the latter gun is 215.9 dm^3 . This space is sufficient and quite proportionate for a charge of 181.4 kilograms. This charge will produce in it (always the same superior powder presumed) the same gas pressure as the 162 kilograms, in the experimental Krupp gun.

While according to this the coefficient of expansion in the Krupp gun is 4.33, the same in the Armstrong gun is reduced to 3.52 in consequence of the enlargement of the space of combustion. This reduction has for result a diminution of 12 per cent. in the utilisation of the powder. There is therefore (equally good powder presumed) in the Armstrong gun a lesser powder utilisation of $12 + 6 = 18$ per cent. to be expected than in the Krupp gun. As in the latter an energy of 45.7 mt. per kilogram of powder was obtained, in the Armstrong gun only 37.5 mt. can be expected. For a charge of 181.4 kilograms, this corresponds to a total energy of 6800 mt. against 7400 mt. total energy as obtained in the Krupp gun.

Under the above-mentioned conditions the Armstrong gun is therefore still 9 per cent. inferior in its effect against armour, &c., to the Krupp gun. It is still to be considered that the new Krupp guns of 35 calibres length weigh only 48,550 kilograms, not 49,200 kilograms, the weight of the experimental gun.

Already, years ago, Armstrong has produced the same 30.5 cm. gun of 35 calibres length in Spain on paper, but has never, that I am aware of, made such guns till now. It would appear, therefore, to be difficult for Armstrong to make guns of this length. For that reason he is obliged, in order to attain approximately the velocities of the Krupp guns, to considerably increase the charges.

Totally setting aside the greater cost caused thereby, these short guns have the disadvantage that they strain the ship's decks and bulwarks considerably more than the longer Krupp guns. This has been shown in a very striking manner by the experiments of various artilleries, who were agreeably surprised that notwithstanding the heavy charges, these Krupp guns strained the decks and bulwarks still less than the short guns of former construction with smaller charges.

It results from the preceding, that for his comparison "Artillerist" has used figures that cannot be correct if Krupp's figures are valid, and these are so, being taken from the results of trials, while the figures given of the Armstrong gun are imaginary and wrong.

The figures quoted by me have been found by a method of calculation derived from experience, and proved to be correct by the results of repeated experiments. They lead, besides, to another conclusion, i.e., that it is inconvenient to go beyond certain dimensions of the space of combustion, consequently beyond a certain expansion of the powder gases.

When we suppose, namely, equal weights of projectile, the energy of the projectile in the Krupp gun would be $162 \times 45.7 = 7403 \text{ mt.}$, and in the Armstrong gun $181.4 \times 0.88 \times 45.7 = 7297 \text{ mt.}$

Consequently, and notwithstanding the difference in the charges, the energy of the projectiles in Armstrong guns would be approximately the same as in the Krupp guns, whereby it follows that the Krupp construction is the more rational, as it attains the same effect with a smaller charge. The two 30.5 cm. guns furnished by Armstrong to Spain give an instructive example for the correctness of the preceding conclusion.

It has been calculated above that the Krupp 30.5 cm. gun of 35 calibres length has 9 per cent. greater effect than the Armstrong gun. It was tacitly presumed that the effect against armour is in direct proportion to the total energy. This is not exactly the case, inasmuch as, according to the executed experiments, the lighter projectiles as employed by Armstrong show about 10 per cent. less effect than the heavier Krupp projectiles, the same high class material being understood for both.

Besides, for the comparison of the effect of both guns it must be taken into consideration that the lighter projectile loses its energy quicker than the heavier projectile. In this direction the proportion is the following:—

Distance.	<i>Vis Viva</i> of the Projectile of a 30.5 cm. Gun of 35 Cal. Length	Proportion of the Armstrong's Krupp	Two <i>Vis Viva</i> of Armstrong's Krupp.
0	6800	7493	0.918
500	6287	6959	0.903
1000	5821	6539	0.890
1500	5394	6148	0.877
2000	4982	5777	0.863
2500	4606	5433	0.848

While therefore the *vis viva* of the projectiles of the Armstrong gun at the muzzle is 9 per cent. less than that of the Krupp gun, this difference at 1000 m. rises already to 11 per cent. and at 2500 m. to 15 per cent.

It now one takes into consideration the 10 per cent. of less effectiveness of the light projectiles, one may expect for the Armstrong 30.5 cm. projectile at the distance of 1000 m. 20 per cent., and at 2500 metres 23 per cent. less effect than for the Krupp projectile.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

FRIED. KRUPP.

Essen, December 8, 1883.

TO THE EDITOR OF "ENGINEERING."

SIR,—I am not going to take either side in this controversy, but there is one statement in Mr. Krupp's letter of 8th December which cannot be allowed to pass unchallenged, and as it is at the bottom of whatever may be the difference between the two guns, I will at once point it out.

Mr. Krupp says the combustion space in his gun is 1.09 dm^3 per kilogram, and in the Armstrong gun 215.9 dm^3 for 181.4 kilograms, = 1.19 dm^3 per kilogram, therefore the gravimetric densities are .9180 and .8412 respectively. He continues thus:—"This charge (the 181.4 kilograms) will produce in it (the Armstrong gun) the same gas pressure as the 162 kilogram, in the Krupp gun." This is quite erroneous. The gas pressure will be in round numbers 35 tons per square inch in Krupp's gun, and 29 tons per square inch in Armstrong's.

This is the real cause of the superior ballistic effect per kilogram of powder in Krupp's gun. Krupp is not afraid of high pressures, and therefore does not chamber, or rather air space, to the extent Armstrong does; and he is quite right if, as I believe they are, his guns are stronger than Armstrong's.

Yours, &c.,

J. A. LONGRIDGE.

MR. EBY'S NEW SCHEME.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I cannot agree with "Ferrex and Porrex" as to the impracticability of a university with a Christian test for its professors, provided the test were broad enough, no more minute than, say, the Apostles' Creed. There can hardly be a doubt, however, that they have pointed out very grave difficulties in the way of founding a second university in Tokio, or even elsewhere in Japan. And besides, the chances of raising money enough by a popular subscription scheme such as has been proposed by Mr. Eby seem to me to be almost infinitely small. But why cannot the object aimed at in the proposed Christian university be accomplished in a simpler way? Why should not any church or mission establish, close to the government University, a Christian school or college, in which students should be prepared for the higher University classes, and any students attending those higher classes who wished it admitted as boarders? Such an institution would of course have its own religious instruction and worship. It might have any courses of study additional to those of the University that were thought desirable. It would be free, by lectures on apologetics, Bible classes, classes in Church history, or other similar means, to influence to as large an extent as it could the students of the whole University, and, if it were conducted by men of the right kind, such influence could hardly fail to be great.

Such a plan would have numerous advantages. It would avoid any such tendency to drive the present University into active opposition to Christianity, as a rival university would be likely to develop. It would need no special privileges from the Government. The cost would be moderate, and the difficulties of administration comparatively small; while, if it should seem at any time desirable and possible to found a Christian university at Osaka, Kyoto, or elsewhere, the way would still be open to that.

I may add, that an institution of this kind has lately been opened in the United States, in connection with the University of Michigan, so that the plan is not altogether a novel or untried one.

I am, Sir, very truly yours,

THEODOSIUS S. TYNG.

Tokio, March 16th, 1884.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In Mr. Eby's letter of the 14th inst., as well as in your leader of to-day, I notice that Mr. Eby's scheme for a Christian University is spoken of as if it had received the sanction of the whole Missionary body of Tokio and Yokohama. "Its projectors" are mentioned, and it is referred to as "the outline proposed by the Conferences." Now, as a member of the said Conferences, I think it only just to state that Mr. Eby is the sole projector of the scheme which has been little more than received for discussion: and that until it has passed through the hands, and received the approval, of a responsible body (which the Conference is not), it remains nothing more than a proposal of Mr. Eby's.

In common with other missionaries, I believe that this scheme, far from recommending itself generally, is certain to be quashed when it comes up for further discussion.

I am, yours, &c.,

THOMAS LINDSAY.

18, Tsukiji, Tokio, 15th March, 1884.

[It was hardly necessary for our correspondent to tell the public that a memorial is not final. Yet it is a memorial of a conference, not of one man. The prophecy contained in the last clause of this letter seems to us very like an illustration of the fault our correspondent condemns.—ED. J.M.]

LAND-TAX REGULATIONS.

NOTIFICATION No. 7 OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

The following Land-Tax Regulations have been established. The Regulations for the revision of the Land-Tax published by Notification No. 272 of 1873, the rules relating to the revision of the Land-tax, and all other measures which conflict with these Regulations are hereby abolished.

In the case, however, of the Seven Islands of Idzu and of the Island of Ogasawara, which are in the jurisdiction of the Tokio Fu, and of the Hakodate, Okinawa, Sapporo, and Nemuro Prefectures, the existing regulations will remain in force.

The above is notified by Imperial Decree,

(Signed) SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Prime Minister.

(Signed) MATSUGATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of Finance.

15th March, 1884.

LAND-TAX REGULATIONS.

I.
The Land-tax is fixed at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the value of land per year.

By "the value of land" mentioned in these regulations is understood the value of land as stated in the Title Deed.

II.
The Land-tax will not be increased in years of plenty nor will it be reduced in years of scarcity.

III.
Taxable land is divided into two classes.
1.—Rice land; land on which crops other than rice are grown; house land in country districts; house land in towns; salt flats; and land on which mines are worked.
2.—Marsh land; hill and forest land; moor land; and other land not specially classified.
Land of the 1st class or land of the 2nd class, the separate classification¹ of which is altered shall be known as "altered land."

Land of the 2nd class which by the employment of labor and capital has been converted into land of the 1st class shall be known as "reclaimed land."

Land of the 2nd class the conformation of which has been altered by natural calamity, such as "land slips, changes in a river's course, encroachments of the sea or of rivers, deposits of sand by sea or river, and land which by such natural disasters has been converted into rivers, into sea or into lakes, etc., shall be known as waste land.

IV.
Land occupied by Public Schools, land occupied by Shinto Shrines in the country,² and by cemeteries, land covered by drains, land underlying artificial ponds or reservoirs, land forming dykes and embankments, land underlying trenches used for purposes of irrigation, and land included in public thoroughfares, is exempt from taxation.

V.
In the measurement of land the long measure (*kanéjaku*) will be used, and 6 feet of this measure will constitute one *ken*. Four square *ken* will constitute one *ho*, 30 *ho* one *se*, 10 *se* one *tan*, and 10 *tan* one *cho*.

In the case of house land, one square *ken* will constitute a *tsubo*; one-tenth of this square area will constitute one *go*; and one-tenth of a *go* will constitute one *shaku*.

VI.
When the value of land is to be determined upon the expiration of the period known as the "Hoing Term"³ in the case of reclaimed land, and of the period of exemption from taxes in the case of waste land, and when the classification of land is changed, the land in question shall be measured.

VII.
The value of land, except in the case of land the classification of which is changed and reclaimed land, shall not be altered.

VIII.
Should it be necessary to make an universal revaluation of land, notice of the fact will be given beforehand by decree.

IX.
In determining the value of land, the quality of the land and its class will be specially determined,

¹ The meaning is not quite clear. But evidently the alteration referred to is intended to apply only to alterations within the particular class; such as rice land being converted into ordinary arable land, or forest land becoming moor land; or again arable land being turned into house land.

² No mention is made of the land included in the precincts of Buddhist Temples.

³ The "Hoing Term" is a period fixed, in the case of moor or forest land, etc., being brought under cultivation, during which the cultivator in consideration of his having improved the quality of the land is only called upon to pay the Land-tax leviable upon the land in its original condition. The reclamation of "waste land" is treated separately.

the profit attending cultivation will be ascertained, and the value will be fixed in accordance with the conditions of the land.

X.

When the classification of land is altered, application must be made to the office of the local prefecture, and the land will be re-valued in accordance with the actual conditions of the holding in question.

XI.

When it is desired to convert land exempt from taxation into taxable land, the permission of the office of the local prefecture must be obtained, and the value of the land will be fixed in accordance with the actual conditions of the holding.

XII.

The Land-tax will be levied on the person in whose name the title-deed of the land is made out. But in the case of land given in pledge the Land-tax will be paid by the mortgagee.

XIII.

When taxable land is converted into land occupied by Public Schools, into land occupied by Shinto Shrines in the country, or into cemeteries, exemption from taxation will date from the month^a in which permission for the proposed conversion is obtained. When taxable land is converted into land covered by drains, into land underlying artificial ponds or reservoirs, into land forming dykes and embankments, into land underlying trenches used for purposes of irrigation, or into land included in public thoroughfares, exemption from taxation will date from the month^a in which the work of carrying out the changes commences.

When land exempt from taxation is converted into taxable land, the Land-tax will be levied from the month immediately following that in which permission for the proposed conversion is obtained.

XIV.

In the case of land the classification of which is altered, Land-tax will be levied in accordance with the change in the value of the land from the year in which the alteration in value took place.

XV.

In the case of reclaimed land and waste land, Land-tax will be levied from the year following that in which the "Hoeing Term," and period of exemption from taxation, respectively expire, in accordance with the value of the land as determined.

XVI.

When it is desired to reclaim land^a the permission of the office of the local prefecture must be obtained. A "Hoeing Term" not exceeding 15 years will then be granted; during this period, however, Land-tax will be levied on such land in accordance with its original value.

XVII.

Should the cultivator, during the "Hoeing Term," change his intentions and convert the land in question into a class of land different from that originally intended, he must report the fact to the office of the local prefecture. Under these circumstances the value of the land may be at once determined, or a new "Hoeing Term" be granted (according to the nature of the case).

XVIII.

In the case of land which, at the expiration of the "Hoeing Term" has not been brought into profitable cultivation, a further "Hoeing Term" not exceeding 15 years will be granted.

XIX.

At the expiration of the "Hoeing Term" a re-valuation of the land in question will take place. In the event of the "cultivator's original intentions with regard to the land not being realized, and the land being converted into a class of land different from that originally intended, the value will be fixed in accordance with the actual conditions of such land.

XX.

In the case of land rendered waste by natural calamity, a period of exemption from taxation not exceeding 10 years, and dating from the year in which the calamity occurred, will be fixed. At the expiration of this period the land will revert to its original value.

XXI.

In the case of waste land the actual condition of which at the expiration of the period of exemption from taxation is such as will not admit of its reverting to the original value, a further period not exceeding 10 years will be fixed, during which the value of the land will be estimated at a low rate, not, however, less than 30 per cent. of the original value. At the expiration of this further period the land will revert to its original value.

XXII.

In the case of land which at the expiration of the further period during which it has been estimated

^a i.e. periods of days not being taken into account, the exemption will take effect from the 1st day of that month.

^b See previous note.

^c This does not apply to the reclamation of "Waste Land;" see previous note.

at a reduced value is still not in a state to revert to its original value, and in the case of land which at the expiration of the period of exemption from taxation is not in a condition to be restored to its original classification, the value will be fixed in accordance with the actual conditions of such land.

XXIII.

In the case of land which at the expiration of the period of exemption from taxation preserves all the characteristics of waste land, an extended period of exemption from taxation not exceeding 10 years will be granted; and land which at the expiration of such extended period is still not in a condition to revert to its original value will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Articles XXI. and XXII.

XXIV.

In the case of land rendered waste by being converted into rivers, into sea, or into lakes, not being restored to its original condition at the expiration of the period of exemption from taxation, an extended period of exemption not exceeding 20 years will be granted; and if at the expiration of this extended period the land in question has not reverted to its original classification, and is incapable of any other classification, such land shall be regarded as land underlying rivers, sea, or lakes, and the title deed shall be taken back.

XXV.

Persons who fraudulently conceal the extent of their holdings and thereby evade payment of land-tax will be punished by a fine of not less than *yen* 4 and not more than *yen* 40. Moreover, the value of the land in question will be determined in accordance with its original classification, and land-tax will be exacted for the number of years during which the fraudulent concealment has continued.

This provision, however, will not have retrospective effect in respect to offences of this nature which occurred previous to the 1st year of the Land-tax Revision (1873).

XXVI.

Persons violating Articles XI. and XVI. will be punished by a fine of not less than *yen* 3 and not more than *yen* 30. In the case of land exempted from taxation which has thus been converted (without notice to the authorities) into taxable land, and in the case of land being reclaimed (without the permission of the authorities having been obtained) and in respect to which it appears fitting that such permission should be given,—the price of all such land shall be determined respectively in accordance with its actual⁷ classification, and the Land-tax shall be levied on the increased scale.

This provision, however, will not have retrospective effect in respect to offences of this nature which occurred previous to the 1st year of the Land-tax Revision.

XXVII.

Persons violating Articles X. and XVII. will be punished by a penalty of not less than *yen* 1.00 and not more than *yen* 1.05.

XXVIII.

With regard to the offences enumerated in Article XXV. and in succeeding Articles, should these be committed by the lessee or cultivator without the knowledge of the proprietor, the lessee or cultivator shall be fined and the taxes shall be levied from the proprietor.

XXIX.

In the event of persons who have committed the offences enumerated in Articles XXV., XXVI., XXVII., and XXVIII. confessing their misdeeds, the fines and penalties in question will be remitted, but the Land-tax will be exacted.

NEW SUBMARINE CABLE.

NOTIFICATION NO. 7 OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

It is hereby notified that, whereas a submarine cable has been laid between Kotomo-mura, Higashi-matsura-gori, Hizen, Saga Prefecture, and Gono-ura, Ishida-gori, Iki, Nagasaki Prefecture, *via* Komota-mura, Idzughara, Shimogata-gori, Tsushima, Nagasaki Prefecture, all anchoring, fishing, and dredging for sea-weed is strictly prohibited within prescribed distances from the cable. In a plan (accompanying the Notification) it will be seen that the said distances, on either side of the cable, are marked by buoys, 100 *ken* apart at the widest, and 30 *ken* apart at the narrowest, places (at the shore ends).

SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Prime Minister.

SASAKI TAKAYUKI,
Minister of Public Works.

March 19th, 1884.

⁷ And not, as it would otherwise be, for a term of years in accordance with the original classification.

THE FOURTH LECTURE AT THE MEIJI KWAIDO.

The Missionaries are not fortunate in their weather. At this time of year, indeed, it would be extravagant to expect constant sunshine. Still, seeing that two days out of the four fixed for the Meiji Kwaido lectures have been particularly inclement, we may fairly say that the elements are not active in the cause of religious teaching this spring. The 7th instant was a day of wind and rain, sufficient to deter all but the most earnest hearers. Nevertheless, about twelve hundred people assembled at the lecture hall to hear the Rev. Hugh Waddell compare the merits of Confucianism and Christianity. It is much to be regretted that there is not available in the capital some place better suited than the Meiji Kwaido for lecturing purposes. The very remarkable mastery of the language which the Missionaries have acquired by years of unremitting study, and the high gifts they bring to their work, render them capable of achieving great results if only the opportunity existed. Nothing could have been happier than the idea of delivering annually a course of lectures in Japanese. The churches and the sermons preached there almost daily naturally attract only those who have already become disciples of Western faiths. In time, no doubt, the circle of these believers will widen, but it were over-sanguine to expect that a heaven working in such circumscribed grooves can speedily affect the mass of a virtually indifferent public. The general attitude of the educated classes towards religion is one of apathy. Both Confucianism and Buddhism, as they are taught here, are essentially calculated to foster this mood. For the former regards death as an universal purifier. To have become familiar with its awesome mystery is to have earned the worship of posterity and a place among immortal beings. The disciple of Confucianism, when he burns incense and offers meat and wine before the cenotaphs of his ancestors, sees nothing of the vital aspects of his creed, but remembers only, that however he may have lived, there will surely open to him one day the portals of that deifying knowledge of which the poet's instinct has so well said:—

We shall know what the darkness discovers,

If the grave pit be shallow or deep;

And our fathers of old and their lovers,

We shall know if they sleep not or sleep.

The doctrines of Buddhism, on the other hand, are incompatible with the energy and practicality which the world we live in demands of all intelligent men. It is difficult to be a Buddhist and to have, at the same time, earnest aims and objects in the present. The result is that great numbers of Japanese are either practically creedless, or else content themselves with the thought that as they do by those who have gone before, so will those that follow do by them also. To make any perceptible impression upon this apathetic crust, the Missionary wants to reach the leaders of thought, and not to work only among the weaker vessels who are ready to have their thoughts manufactured for them. Among the various ways of accomplishing this, none seems better than the delivery of public lectures in the great cities, but especially in Tokiyo, where the student and official classes chiefly reside. We believe that excellent results would follow were Tokiyo provided with a large hall, where monthly, or bi-monthly, lectures could be delivered, throughout the year, by foreigners and Japanese, and where large audiences could be comfortably accommodated.

The subject of Mr. Waddell's lecture on the 7th was of a nature that might have been expected to cause some excitement. Confucianism, appealing as it does so powerfully to the domestic affections, is at the root of those household creeds upon which Chinese society, and China's existence as a national entity, have rested for centuries upon centuries. It is hallowed at once by antiquity and by use, and a stranger, standing up before an Oriental audience to expose the faults and fallacies of so revered a code of ethics, might look for anything but a patient hearing. Nor did Mr. Waddell spare the weak points of his theme. A speaker apparently without any fear of the passions he might excite, he held up Confucianism as it looked by the light of intelligence and logic without any of the obscuring glamour of sentiment or mystery, and though his hearers sometimes seemed on the point of losing their self-control, the interest of this new revelation always sufficed to restrain them. Among the audience on this occasion were several officials, who listened from first to last with marked attention. Mr. Waddell's Japanese, though somewhat disfigured by forms of expression which have evidently resulted from a premature use of this difficult language, nevertheless sufficed to convey his meaning clearly, and was always fluent. The lecture lasted nearly two hours. The following is a *resumé*, necessarily much abridged:—

The Bible says "Buy the Truth and sell it not."

We meet here to-day to seek for truth. Truth, like gold and silver, is often concealed from our view under a covering of earth and sand. It requires the practised eye to distinguish the precious metal from the rubbish in which it is buried. The unskilled, on the other hand, cast all away. In seeking for truth let us beware of prejudice. He who looks at things through coloured glasses sees all in a false light. Let us beware of putting on national spectacles in seeking for the truth. Let us try also to look at the systems we discuss to-day through each other's glasses, and thus, by helping one another, we may come to form a fair estimate of the whole. In speaking of Confucianism, there is much about it to command our respectful attention. It is no system of to-day. It comes to us hoary with age, and every one must feel within him veneration for antiquity. Again, it is not an untried system. It has been tested for centuries; it has built up and held together a nation from the remotest antiquity down to the present day; and now, to-day, it addresses us with four hundred millions of our fellow men at its back. It alone seems to survive the wreck and ruin of time and to stand firm amidst all changes. The lecturer then invited his hearers to examine with him what was in this system that gave it this moulding and conserving power. What was the element in it that thus bound together one third of the human race? In the lecturer's opinion it was religion. A religion which united the present with the past, the son to the father and to the ancestors, by the strongest ties of filial affection and religious veneration and fear. It is said by some that Confucianism is not a religion. This, the lecturer considered a mistake. A system which teaches the existence of a god, or gods, which teaches that the affairs of the world are under the care of the deity, and that man, for favour received from the divine being, ought to worship the author of these blessings, is properly called a religion, though it may be a false one. Now does Confucianism teach the existence of the gods? Does it teach that the world is under their care? Does it inculcate on man the duty of worshipping the gods? To all these questions the answer is affirmative; and if so, then it is properly a religion. The lecturer then went on to consider what are the gods of this system; how they are divided and designated, what they do and how and by whom they are to be worshipped; and from this he contrasted what is said of them by Confucian writers with the teaching of Christ, leaving the audience to consider for themselves which of the two systems commends itself to reason and conscience. The writings of the Chinese show: 1st. That gods were divided into *nai shin* and *gai shin*, gods of the family and of the State, thus forming a family and State religion. The *gai shin* were *jotei*, the gods of the famous mountains, great rivers, and of the four quarters, and the *nai shin* were spoken of as the gods of the ancestral temples and of the grain and the land. Attention was directed to the fact that the *gai shin*, or national gods, were properly called *shin*, while the *nai shin*, or gods of the family, were properly called *rei*. The commentators explain that a god in heaven or above was called *shin*, and when he came down to earth he was called *rei*, and that a god far off was called *shin*, while a god near at hand is called *rei*, and hence when we speak of the gods with reverence they are called *shin*; when we speak of them with affection they are called *rei*. Mr. Waddell showed that similar usage held in the case of *θεός* and *δαίμων*. The god in heaven was called *θεός*, the god among men was called *δαίμων*. He then showed that the gods were again divided into three classes, according as they belonged to earth, heaven, or man, and that these three classes of gods had distinct names applied to them; thus the gods of heaven are called *shin*, the gods of earth are called *gi*, and the gods human are called *ki*. *Shin* and heaven, *gi* and earth, *ki* and man were, in the mind of the Chinese, but one and the same thing only viewed from different aspects. Hence, speaking of earth as to its form, we call it earth, and speaking of it as a god we call it *gi*; and so, too, speaking of heaven as to its form, we call it *ten* or heaven, speaking of its ruling power we call it *tei* or *jotei*, supreme ruler; speaking of its infinite mystery we call it god. He then considered the names of the god heaven, and his relation to the other gods, and showed that he was called the chief or most honourable of all the gods, the object of veneration for all, and the lord of men and gods. The Chinese ranked among their gods, sun, moon, and stars, heat and cold, winds, rain, and clouds, etc., all, on the principle that these things were useful to man and were therefore *shin* or gods and worthy to be worshipped. The ancient stoics held precisely the same theory, allowing the name god to be applied to everything useful to man. In China, the national gods were only to be worshipped by the Emperor and his princes and magistrates. The people had

no right to serve these gods, but were taught to worship the gods of their own families, or the *nai-shin*. With regard to the family gods, Confucius taught that a man derived his spirit from heaven, and his soul and body from earth, and that when he died, the spirit or soul-spirit, *konki*, returned to heaven, while his body-soul *tai-haku*, returned to earth. On this duality of soul and spirit a double form of worship was founded. And spiritual things were offered to the spirit, while corporeal things were properly offered to the body-soul. The *ki*, or spirit of man, was said to be in the *kon* or rational soul, but, according to others, the *ki* was external and the *kon* internal. This latter was the view of Lord Bacon, who says that the spirit is the organism of the soul. We have written proof that the sages of China, in order to excite fear and reverence in the minds of the people, changed the names *kon-paku*, *animus* and *anima*, into the name *kishin*, on the ground that the former did not denote honour or respect, while the latter was regarded as the most honourable title that existed. The spirit had the heart and lungs and liver and blood presented to it, on the ground that these were the seats of this spirit in the man when he was alive. Further, this spirit, or *ki*, was summoned from heaven by music, while the *haku*, or animal soul, was called from earth by the pouring out of libations. The spirit was supposed to come to the feast, partake of the offerings, and confer the blessings of long life and prosperity on those who duly performed the service to the dead; while those who neglected them, were supposed to come under its displeasure and be punished accordingly. In this way the family gods became the guardians of the living, and man was thus constantly surrounded by the departed. In the spirit world, husband and wife were not separated and obliged to feast at different tables as in life, but, on the contrary, the body being laid aside, the spirits, *seiki*, met at a common altar and were worshipped together, a circumstance which might tend to console the dying wife in her last moments, and render her future prospects brighter than her past. Among the departed, some ranked above others, some being called *shin* in contrast to others who were only called *ki* 鬼. Thus the spirit *ki* 氣 of the *seiki* was called *shin* or god, because his spirit was mighty and could order and produce things, and thus coöperate with the gods of earth and heaven. On the other hand, the spirit of the *ken-jin* was said to be weaker than that of the sage *sei-jin*, and became simply a *ki* 鬼 (*ιδωλον*) or shade. The lecturer then proceeded to contrast all this with the religion of Christ. There we have no deification of heaven, earth, or man. The God of the Christ is not heaven earth or man, but the Creator of them all. A man cannot serve two masters neither can he serve many gods. The loyal heart can have but one sovereign; Christianity is here true to man's nature, Confucianism false. Again, Confucianism forbids the common man to worship the great gods. It sends each man to his own ancestral god and thus crushes the poor man down in the dust; while, on the other hand, Christianity lifts up all men to one common level, and invites all to come to the same great God who made heaven and earth. Further, Confucianism requires the worshipper to bring scrip and purse, drink offerings and meat offerings, precious stones and clothing to offer to the gods, and he who comes empty-handed to feast this ancestral god, gets not a blessing but a curse; while Christianity, on the contrary, requires none of these things. God is a spirit, and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. He asks not our food or clothing, our libations and incense. He seeks only the deep devotion of the heart. Hence the poorest, meanest man on earth, who comes to Him with a loving, loyal heart, finds as ready a welcome as the greatest of earth's kings. What has held China together from the distant past until the present day, is the deifying and worshipping of parents and ancestors. Here the love of the child for the parent unites with the veneration and religious fear of the god; and man becomes bound by a chain which cannot be easily broken. For the parent merges in the god, and the god clothes himself in the form of the parent. Thus love, adoration and fear bind the past and present in China. But Christianity realizes all this on a grander scale. For God makes us his children, and becomes our Father in heaven. Nay more, we form but one family and are all bound together by the same family ties to the same common God and Father of us all. Whereas the Confucian system unites each family round its own centre and family god, and by this very means fails to produce true union, for a separate god in each family divides one from the other, and tends to foster all kinds of discord among the various clans and districts. Again, as the living must worship the dead from the remote past until the present, and as among these dead there must be many who have lived notoriously

wicked lives, it follows that the living worshipper must pay his devotions to these wicked men because they are his ancestors. Here then we have good and bad, all ranged in common line of family gods, and the filial son must worship his father's shade even though he were a robber or a murderer. Surely many a man must blush to be found worshipping as gods men who disgraced their kind by their evil deeds when alive. But Christianity leads us to the worship of a God who has in him every perfection, who is the centre of all truth and purity, and in whose worship we may glory: for he is infinitely worthy of it. Again Confucianism tends to lead men to think little of the evil of sin because the offence bulks very much in proportion to the rank of the person against whom we offend, and as the people have little to do with any god but their own frail, sinful ancestors, it will be manifest that the worshipper cannot feel much detestation of sins committed against such a mean divinity. On the other hand, Christianity gives men a deeper sense of sin just because of the infinity of the great and holy Being against whom we have sinned. Again Confucianism does not tell us how a man who has sinned against Heaven can be saved. It says, indeed, that he who sins against Heaven has no where to whom to pray, but it does not tell us how such a man can get forgiveness. But the religion of Christ makes known to the sinner how he may return to God against whom he has sinned. It points out how sin may be forgiven. It shows how God can be just and yet pardon sin through the blood of the cross. It points to the love of God in giving his son, and to the justice of God in punishing the sinner's substitute, and thus justice and mercy meet in the cross of Christ, and sinners are everywhere invited to seek and be saved. Again, both Confucianism and Christianity teach the existence of the world of spirits. The Confucianist regards the present world of light as the desirable one. Here the sun god shines upon him by day, the moon and other gods by night. To leave this world and go into a dreary world of spirits where the spirit is up in the clouds and the soul down in the earth must be a gloomy prospect. The part in the earth is the seat of memory, the part on high is the fountain of all activity. But if the memory be gone from the active part, and all activity from the earth-bound soul, surely it must be a dreary prospect to look forward to such a separation, with only the hope of being united again, say, at least at times, once or twice a year. And what must be the case of those who have no such prospect? Those who die without any one to worship them or care for them when they are gone? But to the Christian the world of spirit is not dismal. On the contrary, it is his own home to which he is going. There is his father's house. There his soul and spirit united shall dwell in the presence of God. And there he will find all his wants supplied. He will not need the food and drink of his posterity. He will hunger no more, neither will he thirst any more. Confucianism keeps China from being opened up; it obstructs the progress of railways and mining. It fills men with the dread of the gods of hills, rivers, roads, and so forth. The people fear to investigate too closely the affairs of the heavens with a telescope, believing that sun, moon, and stars are gods. Christianity rids men from all such fear. Japan is gradually getting rid of all these gods. Science is showing her that the gods of sun, moon, and stars are no gods. It is driving the gods from mountain and river, sea, and land. The real danger now is that if the knowledge of the true god, the Creator of heaven and earth, be not received, the people of the present will cease to have any religion at all. Agnosticism or atheism has no power to unite and hold men in a common brotherhood. Religion alone can accomplish this, and above all, that religion which makes the father god, and which unites men at once by the strongest ties in their nature, divine love, reverence, and filial affection. This has been and is the secret of the power of Confucianism, and Christianity gives us all this in a deeper and wider sense, for it makes all men who believe in Jesus the sons of one God and the Father. Another theory of Confucianism is that the dead may become evil demons and curse the living. This has led the Chinese to provide a worship for all such hungry ghosts, and hence, from the Emperor down to his meanest subject, all offer sacrifices to the unpropitiated divinities. A Chinaman, for this reason, will often show more attention to the body of a dead beggar than to the same unfortunate in life, because, being dead, he has become powerful for evil, and may proceed to take vengeance on those who neglected him while alive. Christianity is not disfigured by any such demon-worship. The souls of the dead have no power to torment or harass the living, nor does their rest or happiness depend on the burning of incense or the offering of gifts at their tombs by those that are soon to follow them into the presence of their Creator.

NEUTRALITY.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

What position shall Japan hold in the event of a war between France and China? This is a question which, just at present, demands our serious consideration. Now that these two nations are involved in grave complications with reference to Tongking and Annam, it is very probable that if France besieges Bac-ninh (*Hokune*), conquers that important fortress, and carries her arms to the northward, China will no longer remain quiescent for the sake of international interests, although she may not desire that the tide of battle be carried into Yunnan. Should China remain passive, it is very possible that France will force her to pay all the expenses incurred in the war in Tongking and Annam, by seizing the islands of Hainan and Formosa. If this were done, China could no longer hesitate to declare war with France. It is truly most desirable that the tranquillity of the East should rest undisturbed; but if we do not immediately make ourselves ready for any emergency, even though the threatened war do not break out, we shall certainly be guilty of dire imprudence. It is absolutely necessary that we should be prepared to face the many dangers which may arise. What form shall our preparation take? Shall we stand neutral in case of a great war between France and China? Or shall we declare ourselves the passive partisans of one of the belligerents? Or shall we, finally, join our forces with one of the belligerents and take part in the war? Say, for the moment, that we stand neutral: shall our neutrality be a strict or a benevolent one?

China is our nearest neighbour, with a literature the same as our own, and easternmost boundaries which directly face our western shores; while France is one of the best friends we have in Europe. A defeat suffered, or a victory gained by either of these two great Powers, would not only cause us sorrow or joy, but would have a most important influence upon the policy of our own Government, as well as upon our national interests. It is, therefore, most necessary that we should consider the present situation in every point, and that we should determine whether it is possible for us to maintain our present status without endangering our friendly relations with either of the two countries; without disturbing the tranquillity of Eastern Asia; without losing ought of our national prestige.

Our modern politicians are often disposed to comment upon the liberty of man, as well as his so-called natural rights; but they are sadly indifferent to the solution of such practical problems as are those which we have just specified. And even though they may occasionally turn their attention to such burning questions as these, they think they do all that is required of them in stating that Japan should stand neutral. It is, perhaps, not to be wondered at that they have never given their opinion as to how this neutrality is to be maintained.

Our own views are always against the maintenance of an aggressive policy; a policy which is entirely out of place in this country in so far as its geographical position is concerned. The possession of territory in the Asiatic continent would surely lead to unfortunate results. This is all the more forcibly true, when we remember that we have no actual quarrel with China, and that we are far from entertaining any hostile feeling towards France. We have no just reason either in the circumstance of the case or in our position to participate in a Franco-Chinese conflict. It follows that neutrality is our safest and best course. But we must know that, if a war actually breaks out between France and China, the maintenance of a strict neutrality would be a most difficult matter, and that strict neutrality not infrequently assumes a partial appearance. In order to make both disputants fully aware of our neutral standing, we must be armed at all points. If war is declared, we in the east, and Great Britain in the west, will find it very difficult to preserve a neutral status. The position of Great Britain would be briefly as follows:—Neutrality includes, *primâ facie*, strict impartiality; for if any partiality is shown by a neutral power to either of two belligerents, that power is actually no longer neutral. Benevolent neutrality, says a Western Jurist, is only slightly different from actual participation in warfare. This is a wise saying, indeed. The people of England appear to suppose that their Government will officially announce a strict neutrality so soon as war shall have been declared between France and China. Such an announcement would prove most beneficial to China, but it would entail serious inconveniences upon France. French vessels, whether men-of-war or transports, *en route* for Annam or China, must call at Port Said, Aden, Point de Galle, and Singapore for coal and provisions. Admitting that Port Said is

an Egyptian port and that no objections could be raised against French vessels stopping there, we are inclined to suppose that, as all the other above-mentioned ports are under the British flag, no French ships could call at any of them, and that they would be unable to reach Saigon, where the head-quarters of the French forces are established. Although, in case of a war with China, France would depend principally upon her navy, still forty or fifty thousand troops would have to be sent out. It would be hardly possible to bring out these troops in French vessels alone, and yet the laws of neutrality would forbid Great Britain's rendering any assistance whatever. There would be the greatest difficulty, therefore, for France in transporting men and provisions. Hongkong is a military post of the greatest importance in the eyes of the French, as it commands the whole of the southern Chinese littoral; but England could not permit France to make any use of the island, nor would she allow France to engage in naval conflict in adjacent waters. France might blockade the ports along the whole coast of China, but England would refuse to recognize the validity of the blockade, and might forcibly interfere in the interests of her eastern commerce. Nor is it at all unlikely that English vessels would try to run the blockade. In this case, complications would inevitably arise between Great Britain and France. Again, English merchants might, for the sake of large profits, secretly sell arms and ammunition to the Chinese, in utter disregard of the laws of neutrality; and the arrest of these merchants would lead to angry disputes between England and France. There are at present several British subjects employed in China in the capacity of naval and military officers and instructors; these officers would have to throw up their engagements, nor could they take any part in a Chinese war with France. Yet, owing to pressure of circumstances or at the earnest desire of the Chinese, they might resolve to continue in the service, at the loss of the national honour, not caring if they thus forfeited their birthrights as British subjects. Many such occurrences took place in the late Turkish war. They would then speedily assume command of the Chinese army and navy, beside superintending the building of war-vessels and the Government arsenals, and they could prove exceedingly dangerous to French interests. Such a state of affairs would not fail to produce much irritation between Great Britain and China. Finally, the people of England manifest much greater sympathy with China, on account of their commercial interests, than they do with their neighbour, France. And in case war is declared between France and China we may reasonably expect that this feeling will grow stronger rather than decrease. The protection of British commerce in China will, in case of war, be a very expensive matter, and the profits derived from that commerce would be greatly curtailed. At all events, if Great Britain maintains a strict neutrality, she will give great umbrage to France; and if she exhibits any partiality towards France her relations with China will be seriously imperilled. Under these circumstances it will be a most difficult matter for Great Britain to stand neutral.

What is true of England in the west, is true of Japan in the east. Since the outset of our intercourse with foreign nations, the earliest declaration of neutrality made by Japan was in the year Ansei, when the allied armies of England, France, and Sardinia fought with Turkey against Russia, in 1854-55. This event took place after we had already concluded a treaty with Russia, and opened the ports of Nagasaki, Shimoda, and Hakodate, where only Russian vessels might take in supplies of coal and provisions. But when a Russian vessel, in which the Envoy Buchachin had embarked, was wrecked and sank off Shimoda, the Shogun's Government not only permitted him to build a new ship in Japan in order to return to his own country, but also provided him with the necessary timber and a staff of efficient carpenters. In a short space of time a schooner was built, mounting several guns. With the help of this schooner the Russian Envoy succeeded in reaching Kamschatka without falling in with English vessels. It must be remembered that, at that time, our relations with England were restricted to supplying fuel and water to English vessels, in accordance with certain articles agreed upon by the then Governor of Nagasaki and the Commander of a British vessel. No treaties had been drawn up by any special commissioners or envoys. No especial announcement of our neutral status had been made to Great Britain. Nor is it unreasonable to affirm that the courteous reception of the Russians by our authorities betrayed their utter ignorance of the true nature of neutrality. In the sixth year of Ansei (1860), when England and France formed an alliance and attacked China,—with which country, however, we had not yet entered into friendly relations—we not only neglected to make

any declaration of neutrality, but we even did not prohibit the English landing their men and buying horses in Yokohama. Somewhat later on, a civil war broke out in the Northern and Southern States of America, while, in Europe, Prussia became involved first in a war with Denmark and then with Austria. As all these occurrences had no immediate connection with the welfare of this country, it was, of course, not necessary for us to make any special declaration of neutrality. But when, in the third year of Meiji (1870), a war broke out between France and Germany, and the fleets of these two countries constantly sailed in eastern waters, our Government maintained a strictly neutral position, and escaped a breach of friendly relations with either of the two belligerents. Diplomacy had by this time considerably developed, and our responsible diplomatists had become familiar with the most important points of neutrality. But we are inclined to believe that their real knowledge of the vital importance of neutrality first began when they themselves saw that, during our revolutionary war, the representatives of the treaty powers in this country openly declared their strict neutral standing. Later on, when war broke out between Russia and Turkey, there was no necessity for a declaration of neutrality on our part, as the dispute had little or no connection with the welfare of Japan. Nevertheless, had England changed her policy and determined to assist Turkey, it would have been absolutely indispensable for us to maintain neutrality in its strictest form. Again, when a dispute arose last year between China and Russia in regard to the concession of Ili, the Admiral assumed command of a well-equipped fleet, and held himself in readiness to attack China simultaneously with the advance of the land forces, so soon as he should have received despatches from his Government announcing the outbreak of hostilities. The moment was one of great significance to our foreign policy. Questions at once arose as to what policy we should adopt; what sort of neutrality we should declare, and whether it would be possible for us to put it in practice, etc. Ever since that time, the public has been familiar with the true significance of neutrality.

The difficulty in maintaining a neutral standing in case of the declaration of a war between France and China will be just as great as if hostilities broke out between Russia and China. The announcement of strict neutrality on the part of our Government would be highly beneficial to China, as in the coming contest her rôle will be rather a defensive than an offensive one. But France, who has to play the part of an offensive belligerent, would thereby be seriously inconvenienced. Indeed, strict neutrality on our part would very probably assume the aspect of benevolent neutrality, so far as China is concerned. If the conflict be confined to Tongking, France will want nothing of us; but if the war be carried on along the eastern coast of China, between Tientsin and Shanghai, it is not so very improbable that France would want to establish naval stations on the western coast of this country, for instance at Nagasaki, Goshima, Tsushima, or Naha. But this we must prevent by every means in our power, even if we have to resort to arms. Still, we could not, nor would we, forbid French vessels calling at these ports simply as havens of safety, where they might be free from all danger of an attack of the Chinese. Again, if France were defeated, and if she lost Saigon, she would be absolutely forced to establish some temporary head-quarters in adjacent seas. It needs no lengthy demonstration to prove that such territory could only be found in Japan or in one of the Eastern Asiatic Colonies of Great Britain. Admitting even that France would not have to change her head-quarters from Saigon, yet it might very possibly happen that, in consequence of injuries sustained by her vessels, she might apply to our Government for permission to repair her ships in Nagasaki; or she might bring wounded soldiers to this country for medical treatment. In such a case, the simple announcement of neutrality would not keep us from acceding to her request, and we should have to let ships be repaired and her soldiers cared for in our ports. But, at the same time, our Government would be forced to adopt measures preventing these soldiers, when convalescent from re-appearing in the field of battle. For it this were not done, the Government would be liable to be severely criticized and charged with having infringed the law of neutrality. It is not difficult for us to prevent the two contending parties from buying anything in this country contrary to the law of neutrality, yet it must not be forgotten that there are many articles which, though not directly applicable to warlike purposes, may indirectly be made use of in warfare. The sale of such articles often gives rise to disputes. Coal, for example, may give occasion to great discussion. If it is not customary to place any restrictions upon the sale of this important article in time of war, we have nothing further to say; but

in any other case the export of coal from Japan will be seriously affected, and the national revenue will suffer in consequence. If similar restrictions are to be imposed upon the supply of provisions, wood, and water to either of the two belligerents, we must be prepared to fly to our arms the moment either of the two nations refuse to observe these restrictions. So far as our international relations are concerned, there are many points in connection with neutrality that require our earnest and careful consideration, and we shall refrain from commenting upon them in a careless or superficial manner. We sincerely trust, however, that our readers will remember that the just preservation of neutrality is not by any means an easy matter; and that, if hostilities break out between France and China, the position of Japan will be one of the gravest responsibility.

IN THE MINISTERIAL COURT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN JAPAN.

Before the Honorable JOHN A. BINGHAM, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

MONDAY, March 17th, 1884.

THOMAS B. VAN BUREN V. THOMAS H. TRIPLER.
SLANDER.—\$5,000 DAMAGES.

General Van Buren conducted his own case.

Mr. Weiller appeared for the defendant.

At the previous sitting of the Court, on the 13th inst., Mr. Weiller applied for permission to strike out the words "in the letter to the Hon. Secretary of State" in the second portion of the answer, pleading that they were put in in error.

The Court said it thought it would not help the defendant, as no plea of justification was admissible under the general issue. Defendant could not allege the truth even as a mitigation of damages without acknowledging having used the words.

Plaintiff said that the proposed change entirely altered the defence. The allegation was explicit and the denial distinct. If he wanted to plead justification it was very simple to try and prove the truth of the words spoken. But that was not the question. The question was had, he made those statements? Defendant had stated that he had written to the Secretary of State criticizing his acts. What the defendant thought about the purchase of the buildings had nothing to do with this case. He did not wish to be misunderstood, he had always been agreeable to the defendant making any pleading he liked, but it must be explicit. By allowing him to alter the answer he did not propose to surrender any of his rights.

Mr. Weiller moved to amend the answer by adding "that if the defendant did utter the words" and so forth "the same were true."

Plaintiff said that the defendant then admitted that after all the first plea was a mistake. The probable motive in inserting the second plea in the answer was no doubt to show to the Court his patriotism and his interest in the people of the United States and to warn them against this terrible Consul-General.

Mr. Weiller admitted that his ignorance of common law pleadings was the cause of the mistake.

Mr. P. Osborn was recalled.

Plaintiff objected to having the testimony of Mr. Osborn as to record evidence. He was perfectly willing to publish in every newspaper in Yokohama and the United States everything connected with any business transaction he had ever been engaged in, but he did not intend to gratify the malignant curiosity of the defendant in a matter with which he had no concern. If, however, the defendant would place himself right upon the record, he would show everything connected with the transfer of the Consular buildings. As the pleadings now stood, however, no evidence upon the subject was possible.

Mr. Weiller then submitted an amended answer.

Plaintiff remarked that in the answer as now proposed, the defendant says he made an error, he intended to plead justification but did not do so. It went on to say that if he used the words, they were to the best of his information and belief true. The words information and belief are no part of a plea of justification. The defendant seemed to be trying to do a great deal on a very small basis. If the plea came in it must come with an admission that he used the words. If it came in that way he would not object.

Mr. Weiller would not admit having used the words "swindled" or "swindled the Government." He would admit the criticism relative to the buildings in the letter to the Secretary of State.

After some further discussion,

Plaintiff cited 2 Rent, page 25, note A., on justification and general issue, which reads that "a plea

of justification accompanying the general issue was proof of the speaking of the words, and that if the defendant failed to establish it by proof, the plea was evidence of malice."

Counsel for defendant then submitted another amended answer, which the plaintiff contended did not contain a proper plea. The difficulty was that they were not entitled to any amendment, if they wanted to change the issue they must admit the using of the words. It was as plain as the nose on a man's face that the whole of this was an attempt to take it out of the category of actions for slander. He objected to their changing the plea unless they admitted saying the words and if they did so they were barred from bringing evidence to prove the contrary. They wanted to say admitting and did not admit.

The Court said it was under the impression that in Common Law a plea of not guilty would admit proof of justification.

Plaintiff said that the defendant was asking for a privilege and yet would not put his plea in a proper form and the one the Court had suggested.

Mr. Weiller said they were demanding it in the furtherance of justice, they had admitted having made a mistake. He insisted that under the law of pleading the defendant could deny and plead justification after the plaintiff had made out a case.

The Court said that one of the allegations was that the purchase of the Consular buildings was unlawful. He might as well say at once that it was bringing up a question over which he might not have jurisdiction. The actions of Consuls were under the State Department. If the State Department had been advised and had sanctioned the purchase he had no power in the premises.

Plaintiff said he stood ready to prove that the Department knew of the purchase and sanctioned it.

His Honour said the action of the Government would be a bar to all further action.

Mr. Weiller said that if that was the view taken by the Court, he should renew his motion for a non-suit.

Mr. Weiller in support of his motion for non-suit, claimed that even if all the allegations contained in plaintiff's petition were considered proved, they were not sufficient to maintain a cause of action.

Plaintiff said that the cases to which the defendant's Counsel referred were State cases, that they were Common Law cases did not appear, and quoted from Starkey by Fulkard's on the Law of Slander and Libel, 6th ed., pages 70, 83, 110, 111, 119, 278, 283, 287. Also Kent, 12 ed., vol. 2, pages 16, 20 and 22. Smith's Manual of the Common Law, page 33. Walker's American Law, 6th ed., page 584. Sedgwick on Measure of Damages, 7th ed., vol. 2, page 344. Some of these cases ruled "that words are actionable, without proof of damage, which directly tend to the prejudice of one in his office, profession, trade, or business"; also "that where his office is lucrative, words which reflect upon the integrity or capacity of the plaintiff, render tenure precarious, and are therefore *pro tanto* a detriment in a pecuniary point of view;" again "where a person holds an office or situation in which great trust and confidence are of necessity reposed in him, words which impeach his integrity generally, though they contain no express reference to his office, are actionable, since they must necessarily attach to him in particular, and virtually represent him as unfit to hold that office or situation." Plaintiff, continuing, said that the allegation as laid in the complaint and as proved was that he had committed an act contrary to law, defendant's saying so did not make it so, but he had charged the plaintiff with committing an unlawful act which was either a crime or a misdemeanour and had likewise said that he had swindled the U.S. Government, which was an indictable act.

Mr. Litchfield, on behalf of the defendant, said that the words as proved by Mr. Prichard, who was the only real witness, stated they were spoken in connection with plaintiff's candidacy for President of the Y.U.C., there was therefore variance between allegation and a proof. Further, assuming that they were spoken of the plaintiff in his Consular capacity, they were spoken as of a matter that was past, and which had been adjudicated by his superior officer. And therefore no further damage could be done. This was like where a man had been charged with having been a convicted felon, which was not slanderous, Starkie, Law of Libel, page 101. Words spoken of a Church Warden might be slanderous, but to say that he stole the bell-ropes of church was not slander as he was in charge of them, Starkie, page 150. No more would it be slander to say that the Consul-General acquired the property improperly, because he was in charge of the U.S. Consulate, and it must be assumed that he held them for the benefit of the State. If the Court was against him and ruled that the words were actionable *per se*, he should have to refer to the plea of justification.

His Honour said that, the Counsel having quoted several authorities, he should reserve his opinion on the motion to non-suit.

His Honour said that before entertaining the motion that was standing, he wished to remark that he was previously under the impression that under the Court Regulations it was necessary to have the evidence written down and signed, but found that the Court Regulations did not require it, but the statute made it mandatory that they should be taken down in writing in open court, be made part of the case, and be made a permanent record in case of an appeal. The signing was not compulsory, but it was only just to the witnesses to have it read, and just to the parties in the suit, so that it could not be called into question afterwards.

The Court notes of the testimony of the witnesses at the previous hearing were then read and accepted by both parties.

Referring to the motion for a non-suit, dismissing the petition, the Court said it rested on two grounds. First that the words were not actionable. Secondly, that it had not been proved that they had been spoken. He had looked carefully into the cases mentioned and thought that to look at the definition of slander in books would not help; it was the circumstances under which it was made. He thought that the motive in the case cited by the defendant's Counsel from the Law Journal was all well enough. That to say that a man was a swindler might be unpleasant, but does not enable the public to know anything about it, and therefore he was not in danger of arrest. He had looked into the authorities and thought that the rulings in Starkie and the Law Journal were made for the reason that there was no averment of an act done. In this case there is an averment of an act done, namely, that he had swindled the Government. What is said of a public officer affecting his character in his official capacity is actionable. Referring to the case of Pollard v. Cooley, Cooley on Torts, page 196, quoted by the defendant, the Court said that the first four definitions of slander therein mentioned covered the present case. Where the words spoken prejudiced an official as touching his office, they were actionable. His opinion was that the words as laid in the petition, "that he had swindled the Government" were actionable. This disposed of the motion. The Court further observed that regarding the evidence brought forward, without assuming what evidence the defendant might bring forth, the three witnesses had proved substantially the following charges: (1) that the defendant had said that the plaintiff had bought the buildings in an underhand way for yen 2,200, from the Kencho; (2) that the plaintiff had swindled the Government of the United States. Unless something else occurred in the evidence, he thought that sufficient had been proved to dismiss the motion.

Motion overruled.

His Honour then remarked that the next question was the amendment of the answer. It was a good home rule that, in the furtherance of justice, the defendant may in an action for slander plead the truth in justification of one or more of the charges, citing Kent's Commentaries, vol. 2, pp. 25, 26. Hilliard, p. 380 par. 35. One charge is that plaintiff purchased the property for yen 2,200, the second that he swindled the Government. That there were two distinct charges here was not to be doubted at all. He supposed that beyond all question he might justify as to either of them. As to general and special pleas of justification, the Court read from Fulkard's Starkie, pages 391, 515, and 740. There was a general plea of justification and a special plea. The general plea would cover the whole ground. Under a special plea it is not necessary for the defendant in his plea to deny the innuendo, the truth of the defamatory matter intended to be pleaded in the defence must be verified. According to Starkie, he could plead in whole or in part. Defendant could plead truth in the whole or in any part of the allegations. The law clearly settled that the defendant might plead the truth of the matters charged without in anywise subjecting himself to any estoppel of right under the general law. As to the form of the plea and justification, the Court referred to Fulkard's Starkie, and said that the defendant must admit the words spoken and aver their truth. There was an allegation that the words were spoken in the interest of the public. The law was that where a party in mitigation says that it was done in the public interest, it remained with him to show how the public were affected in the matter. Leave to amend the answer was then granted, provided that it conformed with the law as cited so as to enable the Court to file it and put it on the records.

Mr. Weiller here handed in the following amended answer:—The amended answer of Thomas H. Tripler, the above named defendant to the petition of the above named plaintiff, shows as follows:—That the said defendant admits so much of the said petition as alleges that the plaintiff is

Consul-General of the United States at Kanagawa, Japan, and that he is resident in Yokohama. That the said defendant denies that he spoke and published of and concerning the said plaintiff the alleged defamatory words in the petition set forth, or any of them, and says that he is innocent of the grievances alleged in the petition; and for a further answer defendant says that at the time of the alleged grievances set forth in the petition he did speak of and concerning the plaintiff that he the said plaintiff had improperly purchased as Consul-General the buildings and premises now occupied by him, the said plaintiff, as Consular Offices and his residence. That he the said plaintiff had no right to buy then at all, and that said purchase and occupancy were contrary to law, all of which said statements are true, and all of which said words the said defendant had a right to say of and concerning the said plaintiff. Therefore, the defendant prays that the petition of the plaintiff be dismissed; that the said plaintiff be adjudged to pay all the costs of this action, and that the defendant receive such other relief as from the nature of the case and in the discretion of the Court may seem right and proper.

Answer admitted.

Plaintiff expressed himself willing to go to issue under the rule.

Percival Osborn, recalled, stated that he knew the location of the U.S. Consulate in Yokohama.

Mr. Weiller—Who is the owner of those premises?

Plaintiff objected, and said that the defendant's Counsel must recognise the fact that the best evidence was the records themselves. This was not legal evidence, but to facilitate the case he would not press his objection, but let it pass.

Witness—The land is owned by the Japanese Government. It was leased before he went to the Kencho. He believed it was leased to the U.S. Government, but was not sure. The ground-rent receipts were sent to the U.S. Consul-General. There was only a notice sent to the U.S. Government or the Consul-General to pay the ground-rent. He did not know who owned the buildings, they formerly belonged to the Japanese Government before they were sold. They were sold to General Van Buren by the Japanese Government. He was Consul-General at the time, and he had no doubt his title was put into the document as it was the usual thing to put in titles in such documents.

Counsel—Do you know the limits of the foreign concession in Yokohama within which foreigners can purchase land?

Plaintiff objected to going into the history of Yokohama, alleging that it had nothing to do with the issue.

Mr. Weiller, insisted that the question was pertinent, as under the treaties that part of Yokohama could not be purchased by any other person than an official. He wished to show that no ordinary person could acquire property there.

Plaintiff said he was willing to admit that the lot was a portion of the ground set apart for public buildings.

P. Osborn said he could not say exactly how the title deeds were worded; it was a long time since he saw them. Others occupied land on the block, such as the German Club and the American Church. The land was a strip that had been reserved for public buildings.

Plaintiff said there were two lots, one for public buildings and one for Consular buildings. The lot upon which the English Consulate was built was owned by an American citizen, who gave it up for the lot set apart for public buildings.

Witness said the transfer of the buildings took place some years ago, he believed in the 13th year of Meiji.

Mr. Weiller—What was the price paid?

Plaintiff objected to the question on the ground that it was entirely immaterial, and referred to the answer to the petition which stated that the purchase was contrary to law. He thought the price had nothing to do with the allegation of his action being improper or contrary to law. He would show in good time how the price came to be fixed, it was a matter between himself and the Kencho, which perhaps the latter would not care to have divulged. He did not wish to gratify the curiosity of the defendant or his counsel in any particular.

The Court said it had been stated in evidence that the buildings had been purchased for nothing, or a nominal sum, which, if so, might imply that it was done in an underhanded way. He supposed the counsel for the defendant wished to show how much money was paid so as to make good the plea of justification.

Plaintiff said there was nothing in the issue as to the amount of the purchase-money. He contended that the question was not what the price of the buildings was but what defendant had said. If the price had been \$5.00 or \$5,000 it made no difference.

The Court ruled that the defendant had a right

to prove the purchase in support of his justification. Plaintiff noted an objection (overruled).

P. Osborn (to the Court)—He did not recollect the price; if he did he would not be at liberty to state it without the permission of the Government. He did not remember the rent paid to the Kencho when they owned the buildings. He forgot the exact amount of the ground-rent paid, but it was about 27.897248 yen per 100 tsubo.

To plaintiff—He had not the right to say who made the proposition for the purchase or sale of the buildings. He had no right to speak about the matter without permission from the Government. There was some correspondence on the matter. He did not think that the plaintiff had sought to purchase the buildings. As far as he was concerned in the matter, the General did not make any proposition or solicitation for the purchase as far as he could recollect. He did not remember seeing the plaintiff in the Kencho in connection with this matter. As a rule he (witness) went accompanied by a Kencho official to the plaintiff's office. He believed that the Kencho made the proposition and fixed the price, which was accepted. The plaintiff did not make any attempt to change the price fixed by the Kencho. He had no distinct recollection of the correspondence he had spoken of before, but believed that the title-deeds and a letter were sent to the plaintiff and he returned a cheque by letter. Thought he remembered a letter being written.

Plaintiff then asked if the witness knew of any conditions as to occupancy of the buildings mentioned by the Japanese Authorities previous to the sale.

Mr. Weiller objected to this question on the ground that if the witness could not answer his question as to the amount of the purchase-money without permission, he could not answer this.

Plaintiff said he wanted to show that the U.S. Government held the buildings on the same terms as previous to the transfer.

Witness did not remember the oral conditions that were agreed to, or that the U.S. Government should have it on the same terms. The parties who would remember the particulars had since then left the Kencho. Mr. Nomura Yasushi, the then Governor of Kanagawa Ken, and the land officer might know. The papers in the Kencho might show the conditions of sale. The ground-rent was the same as before and had been paid in the same way.

Mr. Weiller said that two very important witnesses, for whom he had applied, were not present, namely, Mr. Nomura Yasushi and Mr. Uchiyama Rosetsu, and it was very desirable to hear their evidence.

The Court said it had applied through the Chiji of Tokiyo Fu for the attendance of Mr. Nomura and had received a communication stating that he could not attend till Thursday afternoon.

Plaintiff asked what was to be proved by these witnesses.

Mr. Weiller said that he hoped to prove by the ex-Governor the price that had been paid for the buildings. Mr. Rosetsu was a lawyer practising in the Japanese Courts, and it was through information he had gathered from the Kencho and from other sources whilst in the employ of the defendant that he (the defendant) had been led to make the statements complained of.

His Honour said that he supposed that the evidence the defendant wished to get at could not be obtained from Mr. Osborn, but could only be obtained by an inspection of the title-deeds.

Mr. Weiller said as the witnesses were not present he would ask for the Court's ruling for the production by the plaintiff of the documents he had applied for in his notice.

Plaintiff then read the notice and said it was the most extraordinary document he had ever seen. It seemed to him that what the defendant's Counsel did not know would enlighten the whole of Yokohama—and if complied with would require a whole train of cars to bring it up to Tokiyo. He did not propose to bring Consular documents into court unless specially ordered to do so. He might bring copies if he deemed them essential to his case.

The Court said it was very clear that the whole of the plaintiff's correspondence with the Secretary of State could not be called for.

Plaintiff said that when the documents were applied for there was no plea of justification, as had since been ruled by the Court.

Mr. Weiller referred to rule 178 of the Court Regulations to show that the Court could order the production of the papers. Some of the documents were necessary to maintain that the property was improperly purchased. The plaintiff had said he would bring such documents only as would suit his case. The defendant was unable to go into the U.S. Consulate and demand them. He wanted the title-deeds and vouchers for rent. He would be satisfied if he were allowed to go to the Consulate and copy or read the documents and

then it would not require an extra train of cars to bring them up.

Plaintiff said they had applied for all his correspondence with the Department of State since 1874. He had with him a copy of the letter from the defendant to the Department and the answer thereto, which he was ready to produce.

Mr. Weiller said he was going to produce them in good time.

Plaintiff said he was not so sure of that, and he would like to produce it now.

The Court said that the action of the Department of State could not be reviewed by this Court or any other court in Japan. He did not propose to review the action of the Department of State, as it would not be proper.

Mr. Weiller proposed to show that the defendant had not made full and complete representations to the Department. What the defendant wanted were the letters and vouchers. The plaintiff seemed to think they were afraid to produce the letter from defendant to the Secretary of State and the reply.

Plaintiff said the Counsel's bravery had never been called into question by him. He was amazed at the learned Counsel's temerity. He would repeat, what he had already said to the Court a number of times, that he had nothing to conceal in the transaction under review. In the objections he had been actuated simply by a determination in so far as possible to thwart the malicious curiosity of the defendant, which was not based on any desire to benefit anyone, but simply to wreak his vengeance on the plaintiff. The facts, as they must be shown by the evidence, are that the purchase of the buildings was urged upon the plaintiff by the Kencho authorities, that the price was fixed by them: that although the plaintiff knew of no legal objections existing to his completion of the purchase, he decided not to entertain the proposition until he had communicated with the Department of State, as he wished to do nothing contrary to the wishes or views of that Department. Accordingly he wrote to the Department that the Authorities had offered him the buildings and were determined to get rid of them, and that if he heard no objections from the Department within a reasonable time he would complete the purchase. He heard nothing from the Department to the contrary and completed the purchase. The price fixed by the Kencho was accepted by him and he at once communicated the fact to the Department. The Department's reply would be found in its answer to the letter of the defendant to the Department.

Mr. Weiller said that all this was not in evidence, the plaintiff said he had nothing to conceal but he made objection upon objection. Why did he not produce the documents that had been called for if the plaintiff was so sure of his position?

The Court supposed that the documents in connection with the purchase of the buildings and the vouchers ought to be produced. He would then inspect them and decide whether they could be admitted in evidence or not. It was certainly reasonable that the plaintiff should have proper time to produce them.

Plaintiff said he had made copies of some of the papers, but had not brought them with him. He would wish that the evidence be taken first and the documents produced afterwards.

Mr. Osborn's testimony was then read to the parties and accepted by them as properly recorded.

The Court then adjourned to Thursday next, at 1.30 p.m.

THURSDAY, 20th March, 1884.

The Court's record of Mr. Osborn's evidence given at the previous hearing of the case was read and accepted.

His Honour said that before proceeding further he might bring to the notice of the defendant that he had received a letter from Mr. Nomura, Post Master General and ex-Kenrei of Kanagawa, stating that he regretted after promising to attend that he was unable to do so, it being a National holiday and therefore he had to appear at the Imperial Palace. As to the sale of the buildings in question, he thought the documents relating thereto were to be found in the archives of the Kanagawa Kencho, but he, personally, had no distinct recollection of the circumstances of the sale. If the Court applied through the Minister of Foreign Affairs he thought the documents would be produced. He wished in future to be excused from attending the Court, as he was so much engaged in his official duties.

The Court said that, documents being primary evidence, it would apply for them if so desired.

Mr. Weiller desired that they might be applied for.

Plaintiff said he did not think it would be necessary to make any such application after he had produced his documents. Nevertheless, he was sorry that Mr. Nomura could not attend.

Mr. Weiller said that before the documents were

produced he wished to call Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu.

Mr. Rossetsu, examined by Mr. Litchfield, said he was a legal practitioner in the Japanese Courts. In or about September of last year he received instructions from Mr. Litchfield to make enquiries as to the ownership of the U.S. Consulate in Yokohama, as to the title to the buildings, and the lot on which they stand. He made such enquiries, and afterwards gave Mr. Litchfield certain information as to the purchase of the buildings of the Consulate General at Kanagawa.

Question—Was the information you then gave me correct?

Plaintiff objected to the question, and wished to know how the witness could testify whether his information was correct or not.

The Court said it presumed that the question was put with the intention of rebutting the accusation of malice.

Witness said he gave a correct report of the information as he obtained it.

Question—According to the information you obtained, can you state in whose name the Consular buildings are registered?

Plaintiff objected, saying that it could not bear on the case. It was not the best evidence; it was secondary evidence of the worst kind; the deeds only were the best evidence.

Mr. Weiller remarked that the plaintiff seemed to forget that he could cross-examine the witness afterwards. His object was to rebut the accusation of malice.

Plaintiff said that secondary evidence could not be received until it was shown that primary evidence was unobtainable. He was willing to produce the documents, which were primary evidence.

The Court said that if this case were being tried before a jury this evidence could not be received if primary evidence could be produced. He followed the present manner of proceeding to save time. If primary evidence were not forthcoming or could not be produced, he must receive this as the best evidence, otherwise it would be secondary evidence.

Plaintiff said it could not be secondary or even tertiary evidence, it was only hearsay. Witness had made enquiries and had communicated the result, and even if there were no other evidence it could not be received.

The Court remarked that if the witness had communicated it to the defendant it would amount to something to rebut the charge of malice.

Plaintiff said that the plea that the information had been communicated had no effect in a slander case.

The Court said that it could not be received as evidence of title, but might be used as evidence to rebut the charge of malice.

Mr. Litchfield said that the position of the witness was that he was employed in his professional capacity to find out certain facts, and those facts he had communicated to his employer.

To Witness—Did you ascertain in whose name the Consular General buildings are registered in Yokohama?

Plaintiff objected to the question, and wished to know how witness could possibly ascertain in whose name the buildings were registered. The mere hearing of a statement and ascertaining a fact were two different things.

The Court overruled the objection.

Plaintiff wished his objection to be noted.

Witness said he had obtained information on that head. He also got information as to the date of the transfer of those buildings. He also got information as to the purchase price of those buildings. He also got information as to the character—official or otherwise—of the person who purchased the buildings.

Examined by plaintiff, witness said at the time he was applied to by Mr. Litchfield to obtain the information he had not the slightest idea to what purpose it was to be used.

Question—When did you first ascertain to what uses it was to be put?

Objected to by Mr. Weiller, but overruled.

Witness could not tell exactly, but thought it was some time in December last. It was pending an election for the presidency of the Y.U. Club. He was informed by the defendant himself as to what use the information was to be put. Defendant thanked him for his information. Witness replied, what information do you refer to? Defendant said the information referring to the purchase of the Consular buildings. Witness asked whether the information was for him, as he did not know it.

What else did he say?

Mr. Weiller objected to these questions, as it seemed that the plaintiff wished by them to reopen his case.

Objection overruled.

Witness—The defendant referred to the action of General Van Buren in this matter as a swindle on the Government.

To Mr. Litchfield—The name of General Van Buren was the name I gave you as the purchaser

of the buildings of the U.S. Consulate. In my information the purchaser was described as General Van Buren, Consul-General.

Mr. Weiller now called for the documents that the plaintiff had been ordered to produce.

Plaintiff produced the following documents:—

(1) Letter No. 483 from plaintiff to Department of State, dated 1st December, 1880.

(2) Letter No. 224 dated 13th January, 1881, from the Department of State to the plaintiff.

(3) Letter No. 500 dated 18th January, 1881, from plaintiff to the Department of State.

(4) Letter No. 229 dated 5th March, 1881, from the Department of State to the plaintiff.

The substance of this correspondence was that the Japanese Authorities wished the American Government to buy the buildings. The plaintiff communicated this to the Department of State which replied that it was contrary to the policy of the Government to acquire property outside of their own territory. Plaintiff subsequently informed the Department that the Japanese Authorities were determined to be relieved of the inconveniences attending the present tenure of the premises and desired him to purchase them. They had made him an offer which he would accept unless he received instructions to the contrary from the Department within a reasonable time. The letters received from the Department acknowledged the receipt of his letters but gave him no instructions, he therefore purchased the buildings and announced the purchase to the Department of State.

(5) Letter of 16th December, 1880, from the Kanagawa Kencho to plaintiff offering him the buildings for the sum of yen 2,547.

(6) Letter of 17th December. No. 4967, from plaintiff to the Kanagawa Kencho accepting their proposition.

(7) Certificate dated 19th March, 1884, from the Vice and Deputy Consul General, George C. Rice, that the vouchers were so numerous that it would be inconvenient to produce them and further that the rent paid at present was the same that had always been paid.

Plaintiff then went on to say that he protested in the strongest terms against making any statement as to the amount of rent paid by the U.S. Government, except saying that it was the same as before. He argued that the amount paid had nothing to do with the present case and could not affect it. He believed the U.S. Government would not desire to have it made public, and if he was not peremptorily ordered by the Court he would not state the amount.

Mr. Weiller applied for such peremptory order, saying that it materially affected the case. That if any profit were made the U.S. Government should have the benefit of it. The Court would presently find that a full and complete revelation of the facts had not been made known to the Government.

Plaintiff said that in the answer there was nothing about the amount paid for rent, it had nothing to do with the case. The charge was that the defendant had stated that he had improperly bought the buildings, and had thereby swindled the Government. He had no right to make public what the Government paid for anything without its permission.

Mr. Weiller said that the amount paid for public buildings was a matter of public interest, and he did not understand why the plaintiff made such a great secret of it. The amounts paid for some of the buildings were published yearly, and therefore he did not think that the Government could be so particular. The information was necessary to complete their case.

Plaintiff remarked that it was for the defendant to produce the evidence. He would not divulge it.

Mr. Weiller said the rent vouchers were the best evidence.

The Court said that these matters might go as a mitigation of damages, but did not affect the main question. They might have given the defendant a colorable reason for believing that the plaintiff had swindled the Government, and might go to show that the defendant was led to make the statement in error.

Plaintiff said he did not see how the Government could be damaged, as it was on record that the rent was the same as before the transfer.

The Court could not see how it could injure the Government to answer the question. It understood that the Government was absolved from paying the ground-rent.

Plaintiff said that the Government paid the rent to him and he paid the ground-rent, they both appeared in the same voucher for the sake of convenience. He then put in exhibit No. 8, original title-deed from the Kencho, dated 28th December, 1880, stating that it had been brought to him by the Kencho officials and the purchase-money was paid in his own office. It was made out to T. B. Van Buren, Esq., United States Consul-General.

The Court said that the question was reduced to the amount paid for rent. It was not necessary

here to examine the accounts with the Department. The only thing they required to know was the amount of the rent paid for the buildings and the ground, and whether they were separate items.

Plaintiff handed in a receipt No. 234 for the ground, rent dated 5th February, 1884, for \$175.40 being the rent for one year.

The Court said that in connection with the subject of rent, referring to the last annual report of the fifth auditor of the U.S. Treasury, the rent of the jail was \$600 per annum, the only question remaining was the rent of the other buildings. The Court was under the impression that the purchase-money was paid in paper yen, not in dollars.

Plaintiff said he did not recollect at the moment, but did not think it material to the case.

The Court thought that the object of the defendant in bringing forward this evidence was to show a colorable reason for the statement that the plaintiff had swindled the Government and wished to rebut the assumption of malice. There were other words in the petition such as "he improperly purchased," etc., and the question was, could he not introduce these matters, not to justify, but as tending to mitigate damages.

Plaintiff asked how the question of impropriety attached to the rent.

The Court said the Government had no knowledge of the real value of the property. He thought the Government has been notified before that it was worth \$5,000.

Plaintiff said that was so, and he strongly urged the Government to buy it.

The Court, continuing, said there was nothing in the General's action in the matter that reflected on him in any way. However we got at this, that the whole thing was bought for yen 2,547 satsu, and it could not be doubted that, as the Government paid the same rent for property worth only yen 2,547 as when it was valued at \$5,000, it could not be aware of its true value. This did not justify him in using the word swindler, but the question arose whether this did not give the defendant colorable ground for saying that the transaction was improper.

The plaintiff said that supposing the Japanese Government had given the property to him for nothing, as in the case of the French Consul. He had bought it to make money out of it, and would not lease it for at smaller rental.

The Court thought that, in the rights of justice, it could not injure anyone to mention the amount paid for rent. It did not want to know the whole amount paid, but what was paid for the buildings other than the jail, which was \$600 per annum. The rent of the jail was assessed on a valuation of \$6,000, and knowing the amount of the purchase-money of the buildings, it was not difficult to see that a man might make remarks about the matter, although there was no swindling in the transaction. The evidence was admissible for the purpose of rebutting malice and in mitigation of damages.

Plaintiff remarked that he did not buy the property for fun, he bought it to make money out of it.

The Court said it did not question the propriety of purchase, but would allow the evidence to be given as to the amount of rent.

Plaintiff said that if the defendant had spoken to the proper persons concerned he would not have objected, but he had belched it out in public.

The Court remarked that would have been a privileged communication. It would allow evidence to be given as to the amount of rent.

Plaintiff wished his objection to the ruling of the Court to be noted, as he objected to the amount of rent being put in evidence (objection noted), and said he would furnish a certificate at the next session showing what rent was paid for the buildings, outhouses, etc., excepting the jail. He had one drawn up, but had forgotten to bring it with him.

Dr. Tripler said that he was a physician and surgeon, came to Japan first in 1873, and had resided permanently in Yokohama since 1876. He was an American citizen, and was a member of the Yokohama United Club. There was an election for president of the Club which closed on the 31st December last. He took an interest in the election. Mr. Litchfield, Dr. Fisher, and General Van Buren were candidates. He was opposed to the election of General Van Buren and favourable to Dr. Fisher. He remembered having a conversation with a gentleman of the name of Prichard, the same gentleman who had given evidence in the Court. He met Mr. Prichard accidentally, before dinner, in the hall way of the building that was then occupied by Yokohama United Club. They had some conversation as to the candidates who were being balloted for as President. He (Mr. Prichard) was a strong partisan of General Van Buren, and witness was a partisan of Dr. Fisher. They had several minutes' private conversation. His grounds for opposing General Van Buren were that he could not see how a member of the Club could support him after the hostile manner in

which he had behaved to the members whilst they were trying to found a member's Club. Mr. Prichard said something about Consular matters.

Mr. Weiller (to witness)—In your conversation with Mr. Prichard did you, or did you not, say in reference to the plaintiff that he had swindled the Government?

Plaintiff objected, as the proper course would have been to ask the defendant what he did say, and not put the words in his mouth.

Witness stated that in his conversation with Mr. Prichard he had said that he thought it very inconsistent of the members to support General Van Buren inasmuch as he had opposed a member's club. There was some conversation about the Consular buildings. He said that the General had got the thing very cheap, and that he thought that the rent, taking into account the purchase-money, was very high. He did not say that the plaintiff had gone to the Kencho and got them to sell him the Consular buildings and in an underhanded manner obtained them. He never mentioned the price as being yen 2,200. He did say that the property was out of the concession and could not be held by a private individual, it must be held officially, and also that he got the ground for nothing. He did not recollect using the term law, it was not used in the conversation. He never said that the plaintiff had swindled the Government on that or any other occasion. He had no recollection of having mentioned to Mr. Prichard on that day that he had written to the Department of State, but would not say that he had not done so. He employed someone to find out for him as to how the transfer of the buildings to General Van Buren was made.

Mr. Weiller—What information did you receive in consequence of those enquiries?

Plaintiff objected to the question.

Witness said he received some information.

Mr. Weiller—State what that information was.

Plaintiff again objected.

Witness continued that according to the information he received they were transferred to General Van Buren in his official capacity. He put the question as to privately or officially, and was answered officially as Consul-General. He got information as to the price paid for the buildings, outhouses, jail, etc., in fact all the buildings on the compound were transferred to General Van Buren for 2,547 yen. There was nothing paid for the land except the ground rent. There were 623 tsobos. He knew the building.

Mr. Weiller—What portion of the building is occupied as public offices and what part as private residence.

Plaintiff objected to the question, and the Court sustained the objection.

Examined by plaintiff, witness said he came to Japan in 1873 from New York. Was a resident of New York and was brought up there. He left there in January, 1873, and thought it was on the 6th, it was in the first few days of the month. He landed here on the 29th March, 1873.

Plaintiff—Was the intent of your leaving New York sudden, or had it been contemplated for some time?

Question objected to and ruled out by the Court. Plaintiff said that he thought in cross examination he had a right to enquire as to a man's antecedents.

Mr. Litchfield remarked that if the General would carry the investigation back to the marriage of his parents there would be no objection offered.

Plaintiff said that to day it was the generosity of the Counsel that astonished him, before it was their boldness.

Witness, to plaintiff, continuing said they had been acquainted since 1874. He did not remember having used any such language as testified to by Mr. Prichard. The words swindler, thief, and so forth were not in his vocabulary. He did not recollect when he first made mention of the purchase and sale of the Consular buildings. He had spoken to Mr. Litchfield about it in September last. He might possibly spoken about it before. He had not denounced the purchase of the buildings to a great many persons on a number of occasions. He wished to know in what sense the plaintiff used the word denounced. He had criticized the action. He first authentically heard of the purchase in September last, there had been talk about it for a long time. He believed that he first heard about it from Mr. John Middleton about July last year. He did not hear of it in 1881. The plaintiff never told him about it himself. He was intimate at the plaintiff's house, in 1880 and 1881. That intimacy ceased last August or September. There was a misunderstanding between them. He did not remember speaking very severely of the plaintiff. He believed that he had said that the plaintiff had improperly purchased the buildings, but could not swear as to the exact words. He could not deny, but did not remember saying that the purchase and occupancy of the buildings was contrary to law.

What he had sworn to in his amended answer was in sum and substance what he said. (Amended answer shown witness). He said he used those words. What he said to his Counsel about the words "contrary to law" was that he did say them, but to whom he did not remember. The purchase of the buildings had nothing to do with his misunderstanding with the plaintiff, his feelings in regard to him were about the same as before.

Plaintiff—Before you applied to Mr. Litchfield did you apply to anybody else to make enquiries about the sale and purchase?

Mr. Weiller objected, as it was not material how many persons he applied to.

The Court overruled the objection, as it thought the question was put simply to prove animus.

Witness said did not apply to any one else. He had no recollection of applying to Mr. Weiller. He had some conversation with Mr. Weiller about the same time, whether it was before or after he had seen Mr. Litchfield he could not say. He was almost certain that he did not apply to Mr. Weiller for the information that he afterwards got from Mr. Litchfield. He did not apply to Mr. Weiller as a lawyer, and did not offer him a fee. Did not remember Mr. Weiller's refusing to get the information.

Mr. Weiller said this would close the case for the defence, except that he wished to put in a letter from the Department of State to Dr. Tripler.

Plaintiff remarked that he would like to have the letter from Dr. Tripler to the Department of State put in, and would introduce it himself.

The letter from the Department of State to Dr. Tripler was then read by defendant's Counsel and was to the effect that the Department was aware of the transaction and did not oppose it; and that General Van Buren held the property at his own risk as a private citizen.

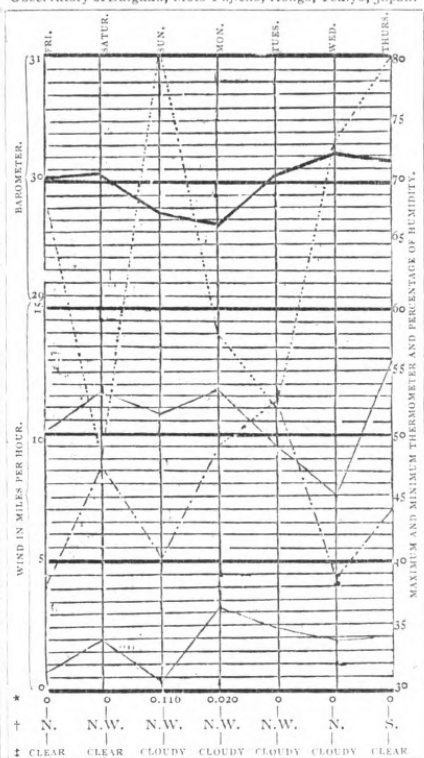
Plaintiff said he would have two more witnesses to call.

The Court then adjourned to Monday 24th instant, at 1.30 p.m.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MARCH 14TH, 1884.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hong, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dotted line—represents velocity of wind.
Dash-dot line—percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 29.3 miles per hour on Monday at 11 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.243 inches on Thursday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.482 inches on Monday at 6 a.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 55.2 on Thursday, and the lowest was 30.8 on Sunday. The maximum and the minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 60.8 and 28.8 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 0.138 inches, against .029 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, March 16th.

TERRIBLE SLAUGHTER IN EGYPT.

The British loss in the recent battle was 110 killed, and 150 wounded. The enemy's loss was 4,300 killed, and 5,000 wounded.

THE FRENCH ABROAD.

The French Government has resolved to exercise sovereignty over Obock in the Red Sea.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 26th February.

The Premier has introduced a Bill for the Extension of the Franchise which reduces the County Franchise to Ten Pounds, and said that he hoped to bring in a Bill for the redistribution of seats next year.

London, 1st March.

Mr. Gladstone's Bill provides for a uniform franchise for the Three Kingdoms.

London, 2nd March.

The rebels in the Soudan have been completely defeated. The British loss in killed and wounded is fifty. That of the enemy is one thousand.

London, 3rd March.

The British have occupied Tokar.

London, 5th March.

The British troops will proceed immediately to Suakim.

The Premier, in reply to a question, said that when the safety of Suakim was secured, the expedition would terminate.

London, 10th March.

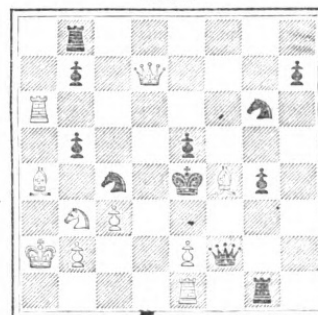
THE WAR IN THE SOUDAN.

Despatches from the seat of war in the Soudan state that the rebels are approaching Suakim. Advance guards were sent out challenging and summoned them to disperse, which they refused to do, and the British troops were ordered to advance.

CHESS.

From the Chess World.
By "C. M. B.," of Dundee.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 8th March, 1884,
by the Rev. F. R. DREW.

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1.—K. to K. R. 7. | 1.—Q. takes R. |
| 2.—B. to Kt. 4. | 2.—B. takes B. |
| 3.—Kt. to B. 6. | 3.—Anything. |
| 4.—P. to Kt. 3, mate. | |

Solution to Chess Problem of 15th March, 1884,
by J. ELSON.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1.—R. to R. 6. | 1.—R. at B. 4, moves. |
| 2.—K. to Q. 5. | 2.—Anything. |
| 3.—R. mates. | |

Correct answers received from "TESA."

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 15th March,—Hongkong 6th March via Nagasaki Kobe and, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 430, Taneda, 15th March,—Kobe 13th March, General.—Seiriussha.

Walter Siegfried, British bark, 416, P. Hannsen, 15th March,—Takao 29th February, Sugar.—Chinese.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,198, A. Webster, 17th March,—London via Hongkong, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Volga, French steamer, 1,583, Du Temple, 17th March,—Hongkong 11th March, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lampert, 18th March,—Yokkaichi 16th March, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, Captain Allen, 18th March,—Yokosuka Dock 18th March.—Lighthouse Department.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 18th March,—Hakodate 15th and Oginohama 17th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 19th March,—Handa 16th March, General.—Handasha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsmoto, 19th March,—Yokkaichi 17th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 20th March,—Kobe 18th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 20th March,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 20th March,—Shimizu 18th March, General.—Seiriussha.

Shario Maru, Japanese steamer, 484, Streamer, 20th March,—Yokkaichi 10th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Tamura, 21st March,—Yokkaichi 19th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Iwaki Kan, Captain S. Shinagawa, 21st March,—Yokosuka.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,245, Williams, 21st March,—London via Hongkong 13th March, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 21st March,—Yokkaichi 18th March, General.—Seiriussha.

Razboingh, Russian cruiser (8), Captain Pojarsky, 21st March,—Honolulu 18th February.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 349, Fukui, 21st March,—Kobe 19th March, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, J. Adair, 22nd March,—Kobe 20th March, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Yorkshire, British steamer, 1,425, J. H. Arnold, 22nd March,—London via Hongkong 14th March, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lampert, 15th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 15th March,—Kobe, General.—Seikisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsmoto, 15th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Asahi Maru, Japanese steamer, 342, Kimura, 17th March,—Kobe 16th March, General.—Nakamura-sha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 16th March,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Marie, German bark, 465, H. Ipland, 16th March,—Takao, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 16th March,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Sekirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 484, Moto, 16th March,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Tamura Maru, Japanese steamer, 560, Dithlefsen, 16th March,—Hachinohe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,960, Steadman, 16th March,—Hakodate and Otaru, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kamschatka, Russian steamer, 702, Ingman, 17th March,—Nagasaki, Coals.—Walsh, Hall & Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Adair, 17th March,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 17th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Will o' the Wisp, British steamer, 166, F. Owston, 17th March,—Hakodate, General.—Owston, Snow & Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 460, Arai, 18th March,—Korea via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 18th March,—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 430, Taneda, 18th March,—Kobe, General.—Seiriussha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, P. Hussey, 18th March,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, Lampert, 19th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsmoto, 19th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 19th March,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 20th March,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Shario Maru, Japanese steamer, 484, Streamer, 20th March,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 20th March,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 21st March,—Shimizu, General.—Seiriussha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 673, Thomas, 21st March,—Hakodate via Niigata, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,196, Hubbard, 22nd March,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 22nd March,—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 22nd March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—H.E. Hon. F. R. Plunkett, H.B.M.'s Minister for Japan, Mrs. Plunkett, 2 daughters, and governess, and 2 servants; Mr. and Mrs. Grant, Dr. and Mrs. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Rickett, Mr. and Mrs. Sanders, Rev. C. Warren, Messrs. Dodds, Bellamy, and Graham in cabin; and 2 Chinese second class, and 6 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Mikuni Maru*, from Kobe:—15 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimizu:—15 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Bengloe*, from London via Hongkong:—2 Indians in steerage.

Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Huot and servant, Mr. Tajima and servant, Mr. A. Pere and servant, Messrs. Leichtenen, F. R. Hogg, and J. A. Repenn in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—68 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hokodate:—8 Japanese in cabin; and 86 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Handa:—16 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—84 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Kobe:—Rev. and Mrs. Hopper, Captain James, Messrs. Suychiro, Nakamikado, and Suwayama in cabin; and 13 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tobio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Mutsu, Mr. and Mrs. Endo, Miss Bernstein, Miss Kishida, Lord R. Gower, Master Mutsu, Messrs. W. Robertson,

E. A. Brocker, A. Budd, J. H. Johnson, E. H. Mathews, John Caldecott, S. Strauss, Popp, and Imamura in cabin; and Messrs. Ward, U.S.N. and Brown in 2nd class; and 1 European, 8 Chinese, and 356 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco:—Mr. W. H. Chambers, U.S.N. in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—5 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—68 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seisho Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—24 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Merionethshire*, from London via Hongkong:—Miss Coulson in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sekirio Maru*, from Kobe:—18 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Owari Maru*, from Kobe:—1 European and 40 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Hongkong:—Mr. S. J. Gower in cabin; and 2 Europeans, 7 U.S. seamen, and 227 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, for Korea via Kobe and Nagasaki:—10 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, for Kobe:—25 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Governor Kitagaki, Mr. and Mrs. MacDonald, Mr. and Mrs. C. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Cutter, Mr. and Mrs. Fukushima, Mr. and Mrs. Matsuwo, Miss MacKechnie, Miss Cory, Captain Lamaschefsky, Messrs. J. H. Coombs, Symes, R. A. Robertson, John Will, W. Ware, Mayeda, Tanabe, Isono, Misaka, Ito, Shan Peng Han, and Wachi in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. Kawakami and S. Kihara in cabin; and 85 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Rev. and Mrs. F. K. Tyson and children, Rev. and Mrs. F. S. Tyng, Rev. and Mrs. C. S. Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. Okuma and servant, Mrs. Pow Choy Chee and 2 children, Mrs. Cheong Cheng and child, Mrs. Hanks, Graham, and Podiapolsky in cabin; and 4 Chinese and 6 Japanese in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, for Hakodate via Niigata:—35 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Sugar, 3,756 bags; Sundries, 1,912 packages; and Through Cargo, 1,286 packages.

Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—1,099 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$54,950.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—\$75,708.28.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk, for France, 13 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Kashgar*, Captain W. J. Webber, reports leaving Hongkong on the 6th March, at 0.50 p.m. with experienced north-easterly winds, and thick foggy weather, and a very heavy thunderstorm, vivid lightning, and heavy rain on the 7th; towards latter end weather became finer; arrived at Nagasaki on the 11th March, at 9.40 a.m., and were detained 17 hours 5 minutes on account of thick rainy weather with fresh southerly and south-westerly winds. Left Nagasaki on the 12th March, at 2.50 a.m. and experienced overcast weather, fresh westerly winds and heavy squalls; at 4.40 a.m. passed Company's steamship *Khuva*, at 4.20 p.m. entered Shimonoseki Straits weather clearing up; passed all the principal scenery by daylight; arrived at Kobe on the 13th March, at 5.10 p.m. with light southerly winds and fine weather. Left Kobe on the 14th March, at 4.55 a.m. and experienced light variable winds, and fine weather to Rock Island, thence to Yokohama N.W. winds, and fine clear weather. Arrived in Yokohama, on the 15th March, at 2 p.m., on the whole, having had a most agreeable and pleasant voyage throughout, quite a yachting excursion.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Kobe on the 18th March, at 6.30 p.m. with light northerly winds during the first part of the voyage, and on the latter fresh E.N.E. winds and unsettled weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 20th March, at 7.30 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The tone of the Market has been quieter, and business has been somewhat checked by the appreciation in the value of *Kinsatsu*.

COTTON YARN.—Reduced Stocks of desirable spinings and the firm tone of the Manchester Market have caused holders to raise their prices, which has been paid to a limited extent, but buyers have been operating very cautiously. Bombays have been dull.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—Grey Shirtings continue neglected, and quotations more or less nominal. Small sales of T.-Cloths are reported, and a moderate business in Turkey Reds.

WOOLLENS.—Fair sales of Mousseline de Laine have again been recorded, but other goods have been mostly dull, and without enquiry, especially Cloths and Blankets, prices of which are quite nominal.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 27.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.75 to 30.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	29.50 to 30.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.50 to 32.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	32.50 to 33.75
Nos. 32/42, Medium to Best	34.50 to 36.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.25 to 35.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.50 to 39.50
No. 20s, Bombay	26.00 to 28.00
No. 16s, Bombay	24.50 to 26.50
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	22.00 to 13.50

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PICE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches ..	\$1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches ..	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches ..	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches ..	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ..	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches ..	PER YARD.
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches ..	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches ..	1.20 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches ..	1.50 to 2.00
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ..	1.70 to 1.82½
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches ..	7.00 to 7.50
Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches ..	0.65 to 0.70
	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches ..	\$3.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches ..	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches ..	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches ..	0.14 to 0.15
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches ..	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches ..	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches ..	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches ..	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches ..	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb ..	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to ½ inch ..	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

Another week has passed without any business having been done in Oil. Deliveries have been 15,000 cases, leaving a Stock of about 655,800 cases sold and unsold Oil. Quotations remain nominally the same as in our last.

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.76
Comet	1.72
Stella	1.68

SUGAR.

The Sugar Market is at a standstill, Stocks being firmly held for the prices given below, which buyers will not pay. The commodity is accumulating, and Formosas will soon total large quantities in godown, in view of cargoes to arrive unless holders make some concession in present rates.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.70 to 3.75

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last report was issued on the 13th instant,

since which date there has been less doing, the Settlements for the week being reported 170 piculs only. There have been enquiries for various kinds of Silk at fair prices, but dealers have not been very anxious to sell, unless at full rates, the hardening of the "Satsu" Market making them yet more conservative in their ideas.

Again the bulk of purchases made are presumably destined for the next American mail. Advices from Europe give little encouragement to buyers at the moment, and sellers also seem inclined to bide their time. Meanwhile, native manufacturers are in the Market to some extent, and the Stock is yet further reduced.

The Export to be recorded for the week is very small, consisting of 30 bales, destined for France and shipped per M.M. steamer *Menzaleh* on the 15th instant. The present week's English mail left on Thursday, being advanced somewhat on account of the change in the monsoon. The total Export to date now stands at 28,050 bales, against 23,318 bales to same date last year, and 15,549 bales in 1882.

Hanks.—Nearly one-half the recorded business appears to have been in this class. Prices unchanged since last report. Among the purchases we observe *Shinshu*, \$520, \$512½, \$510; *Foshu*, \$515; *Hachioji*, \$465. The Stock of *Hanks* is comparatively large, but prime qualities are very scarce and firmly held at long prices.

Filatures.—There has been something doing in this class, although the full tide of purchasing for the next American mail does not seem to have set in at present. Among the recorded Settlements we note *Shinshu*, \$620; *Koriyama*, \$610; *Hikone*, \$590; and a few bales *Tokosha* rejections at the last-named price. Some *Koshu* "Black Horse" chop also done at \$590.

Re-reels.—Not much done in these, favorite chops being scarce. Some business rumoured in No. 1 at \$610 to \$615, but the report needs confirmation. *Koriyama* quoted \$610, and some Medium *Oshu* \$595. *Shinshu* kinds are apparently quite absent from the Market.

Kakedas.—Some business passing; holders are asking very high prices, which buyers hesitate about paying. The list of transactions comprises kinds at \$625, \$575, and \$565. Stock is reduced to 150 piculs, and some parcels are doubtless held off sale for the present.

Oshu and Coarse Kinds.—No transactions whatever for export: some parcels again taken up for manufacturers' use.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	Nominal
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	\$520 to 530
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	510 to 520
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	530 to 510
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	480 to 490
Hanks—No. 3	Nom. 465 to 475
Hanks—No. 3½	Nom. 450 to 460
Filatures—Extra	650 to 660
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	630 to 640
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	615 to 625
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	610 to 620
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600 to 610
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	570 to 580
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	610 to 620
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	590 to 600
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	570 to 580
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	550 to 560
Kakedas—Extra	Nominal
Kakedas—No. 1	610 to 620
Kakedas—No. 2	580 to 590
Kakedas—No. 3	550 to 560
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Tables Raw Silk to 20th March, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	16,858	11,907	7,706
America	8,553	7,814	4,818
England	2,639	3,507	2,935
Total	28,050	23,318	15,549

WASTE SILK.

There has been more doing in this department, and Settlements are returned as 300 piculs. Supplies have been about equal to demand, and the Stock-list is practically unchanged from last week. Good Wastes are reported very scarce up country,

and Stock here is very small; so these grades hold their own well. On the other hand, Medium and low *Kibiso* do not hold their ground, although *Neri* exhibit an advance, the purchases of a month ago not being practicable to-day.

The M.M. steamer of 15th instant had on board 99 bales, and Export to date now stands at 21,010 piculs, against 19,674 piculs to 20th March, 1883, and 19,154 piculs at same date in 1882.

Noshi-ito.—Two-thirds of the week's business has been in this class. Good Medium *Filatures* have found buyers at \$135, with some lower quality at \$122½. Best *Foshu* have been dealt in at \$112½ and \$105, with Ordinary at \$87 to \$85, according to assortment. Some few lots *Shinshu* noted at \$115. Arrivals have not been large, and there is but little Stock at the moment to choose from.

Kibiso.—The remainder of the week's business has been done in *Kibiso*. There seems to be no Stock whatever of the higher grades, and the Settlement-list comprises *Shinshu*, \$55; *Yechigo*, \$42½; *Foshu*, \$45, \$39, \$35, \$32½, with some very Common *Hachioji*, at \$15. In *Neri* transactions reduced to a minimum by the paucity of the Stock and the advanced pretensions of holders.

Mawata.—No transactions, everything in *statu quo*.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	None.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	130
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	Nom. 140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	85 to 87½
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	Nom. 125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	Nom. 115 to 120
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	Nom. 95
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 85
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	65 to 70
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 35
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	25 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	18 to 12
Mawata—Good to Best	Nom. 170 to 180

Export Table Waste Silk to 20th March, 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	18,895	16,506	15,933
Pierced Cocoons	2,195	3,168	3,221
	21,090	19,674	19,154

Exchange has again weakened, especially for Sterling and Francs. We quote:—LONDON, 4 m/s., Credits, 3/8½; Documents, 3/8½; NEW YORK, 30 d/s., 88½; 60 d/s., 89½; PARIS, 4 m/s., fcs. 4.65; 6 m/s., fcs. 4.68. *Kinsatsu* have again risen, and leave off 112 to 111 for \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 20th March, 1884:—

	RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	1,150		Pierced Cocoons ..	—
Filature & Re-reels	400		Noshi-ito	30
Kakeda	150		Kibiso	460
Sendai & Hamatsuki	120		Mawata	20
Taysam Kinds	30			
Total piculs	1,850		Total piculs	510

TEA.

Settlements since the 14th instant amount to 580 piculs. Good Common to Good Medium have been in most demand, and prices paid for these have been fully up to the last quotations. Receipts have been steady, and the unsold Stock is estimated in the neighbourhood of some 665 piculs, an increase of 230 piculs, as compared from this day a week ago. No shipments of Tea have been made since our last Market Report, and none is likely to be made until the *Arabic* arrives.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$14 & under
Good Common	16 to 18
Medium	20 to 22
Good Medium	Nominal

EXCHANGE.

There has hardly been a transaction worth noting during the week, and rates remain unaltered.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/7½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/8½
On Paris—Bank sight	4-57
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4-69
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	88
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	88½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	88
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	88½

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TIN PLATE AND SHEET IRON MANUFACTURERS.

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For the excellence of our Manufactures, we have received following AWARDS:—
Vienna Exhibition, 1873, Diploma of Merit.
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* The ONLY ONE awarded to any Tin Plate Manufacturer.
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May 1st, 1883.

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SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakar that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their virtue."

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Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining 'stock.'"

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World.
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celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained Nine Prize Medals, including London, Vienna, Philadelphia,

ONLY GOLD MEDAL—PARIS, 1878,
TWO SILVER MEDALS AND "FIRST ORDER OF MERIT,"
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ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR THE HANDKERCHIEF.

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang-ylang, Staphanotis, Opopanax, Jockey Club, Ess Bouquet, Trevol, Magnolia, Jasmin, Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet, and all other odours, of the finest quality only.

ATKINSON'S FLORIDA WATER, a most fragrant Perfume distilled from the choicest Exotics

ATKINSON'S QUININE HAIR LOTION, a very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.

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ESTABLISHED 1799.

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KILLS BUGS,
FLEAS,
MOTHS,
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THIS POWDER is quite HARMLESS to ANIMAL LIFE, but is unrivalled in destroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCK-ROACHES, BEETLES, MOTHS IN FURS, and every other species of insect. Sportsmen will find this invaluable for destroying fleas in their dogs, as also ladies for their pet dogs.

THIS ARTICLE has found so GREAT a SALE that it has tempted others to vend a so-called article in imitation. The PUBLIC are CAUTIONED that the tins of the genuine powder bear the autograph of THOMAS KEATING. Sold in Tins only.

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A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEET-MEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children. Sold in Bottles, by all Druggists.

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